

GALLIANO **SHOWS HIS GREATEST**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG Why I believe in ghosts

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OF AMORT

TODAY

Cabinet revolt fear after Blunkett memo

Blair to take command of benefit reform

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR faced down the threat of Cabinet revolt and party mutiny yesterday as he took charge of moves to reform the welfare state and declared that there was no

alternative to change.
The Prime Minister, rocked by the disclosure of a devastating attack by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, on proposals to cut disability benefits, said the system was not working and re-forming it would be "the objective of the whole Government".

He staged an impromptu press conference as he arrived to watch a football match, telling reporters:
"We will do it fairly, we will do it sensitively, but we will do it."

It was clear last night that Mr Blair had turned the battle to shake up the welfare state into a campaign similar to the one in which he persuaded the Labour party to drop Clause IV. Some ministers were even comparing it to Margaret Thatcher's fight with the Tory Cabinet "wets" in the early 1980s. He has decided to chair a new

ministerial group on welfare reform, taking overall control of a process which until now has been headed by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor

He is taking charge both to assure anxious colleagues that the review is not a Treasury-driven cuts exercise and also to stake his whole authority as leader and Prime Minister on pushing the package through.

He seems to be ready for trouble. In a Newsweek interview released today Mr Blair says: "It will get a lot rougher than this. I've always said this to people - if we don't hit rough times we are not doing our job." An embarrassed Mr Blunkett, whose letter to Mr Brown voicing "Do you still believe

proposals for disabled benefit changes, presented himself in inter-

in Labour?"

people who were not in work being better off than those who were. He denied there was a rift, saying: "I think that all of us have got the same objectives, the principles spelt out by Tony Blair."

job. But the damage caused by the revelation of his outspoken opposition to a central plank of the review plans was huge because it exposed for the first time the full extent of Cabinet worries. It also confirmed the fears of disabled groups that proposals to cut, tax or means-test their benefits are under active con-

views yesterday as one of the leading advocates of welfare reform. He spoke of constituents who were "sick and tired" of seeing

He was felt by government offici-als to have made the best of a bad

Mr Blunkett, who is blind, voiced

strong objections to taxing or means-testing disability living al-lowance, said that handing respon-sibility for paying the benefit to local authority social service departments would be a recipe for confusion and impoverishment. He warned of a future revolt if the Government abolished industrial injuries benefits for existing claimants, and warned that switching from National Insurance-based benefits to more means-testing would under-mine social cohesion.

Although he protested yesterday that the proposals had come from officials and not ministers, the fact that he sent his letter to Mr Brown spoke volumes. All those ideas have been floated in recent weeks by both ministers and officials and Mr Blunkett clearly feared that they had the support of Mr Brown and Alistair Darling, his Chief Secre-

The leak of the Blunkett letter on Saturday night overshadowed a speech by Mr Blair in his constituency in which he said there was no choice but to reform the benefit system. "If we don't, we fail the people we have to help," he said. Yesterday he added: "A welfare state that is ... costing more than we spend on schools, hospitals and police put together while more people live in poverty is not a welfare state that is delivering

fairness or efficiency."

He added: "I intend to lead the debate. I intend to be at the forefront, driving it forward, making sure that the changes we make are consistent with our principle of social justice and fairness."

Speech details, page 4 Leading article, page 21



Oxbridge prepares to charge fees of £4,000

BY JOHN O'LEARY EDUCATION EDITOR

OXBRIDGE bursars are prepared to forgo £35 million in state support and charge students fees of up to £4,000 a year if a government review of their funding threatens their

colleges' independence.

The two universities have until January 5 to put the case for retaining their existing support, paid direct to the colleges by the state. The colleges fear that they will be expected to survive on a reexpected to survive on a re-duced amount paid through the univeristies, making their income less secure and altering the power structure in Oxford and Cambridge.

Under alternative proposals discussed by Cambridge's fees committee last Friday, the colleges would waive their right to state support and collect fees, which currently stand at £2,700, from their students. A bursary scheme would ensure that poor applicants were not excluded.

Andrew Murison, the bursar of Peterhouse and archi-tect of the plan, said: "Many of us believe that the mechanism is as important as the amount of money we receive because the loss of direct funding could mean that in five to ten years Oxbridge was unrecognisable from what we see today. Any semblance of independence would go out of the window and the colleges would become no more than halls of

Oxford and Cambridge argue that college life and the individual or small-group tuition culture it allows are the key to their excellence. The universities are still hoping that they would be offered a fees package that they could accept before the end of next month, but the Cambridge bursars are anxious to have a

Astronomer says we are in 2009

Jesus Christ was born 12 years earlier than is believed, according to a leading Italian astronomer. We are therefore in the last days of 2009.

Professor Giovanni Baratta says he has found new evidence from Roman history. the Bible and astronomy which "does not affect belief in Christ's divinity, but does affect calendars"....... Page 11

Saddam warned

America will urge the UN Security Council to warn Saddam Hussein that barring UN inspectors from his pal aces is unacceptable. Page 13

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Idling drivers face fines

DRIVERS who leave vehicle engines idling at the kerb may be fined under new Scandinavian-style anti-smog laws to be unveiled next month.

Parking wardens and the police will be given the power to fine people £20 for running engines while parked at the roadside, in lay-bys and at taxi ranks - although no specific time limit has been set. Ministers want to tackle flagrant offenders, but in

theory anyone who stops without turning off the ignition could be at risk. The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) said the regulations would come into force next month. It was expected that wardens would have discretion over who to fine.

Coaches with passengers on board on days when heating or air conditioning units were

needed are not the target. But a lone coach driver who kept his engine running while awaiting his passengers could expect to be targeted.

The spokesman said "buses

on turn-around", where drivers often sit idling the engine for up to 15 minutes would be liable, as would taxis at ranks. Chris Cawley, assistant director of pollution at Westminster City Council, which has played a key role in securing the laws, said parking war-dens would be advised to warn offending drivers. Those who persisted would be

Mr Cawley said cities would crack down on notorious places such as Victoria and Park Lane in central London, vhere coaches, cars and other vehicles often parked with engines running. There would be exemptions, such as delivery vans that need the por to operate tail gates and older ice-cream vans that have to

keep freezers working. Westminster would signs and leaflets to alert drivers and companies. Motoring organisations

fear drivers in congested streets may also be fined, but the department said that would be beyond the spirit of the law. But clearly if it looks as if the traffic is not going to move for some time, we would expect people to turn off engines," the spokesman said. Leaving a car untended with the engine running is already

Other regulations will em-power local authorities to fine owners of vehicles breaking emissions standards. Now only Vehicle Inspectorate staff can stop and test a vehicle and

Carey's joke falls flat in Asda's aisles

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

NO-ONE laughed on the Isle of Dogs when the Archbishop of Canterbury told his joke about the Christmas banner which should have read: "Glory to God in the Highest."The letter "e" had been dropped out of "highest", making it: "Glory to God in the High st."

Dr George Carey's message was being broadcast to all the 216-Asda supermarkets in the land as the highlight of a 40-minute caral service celebrated at the Gravesend store in

But at the store in the Isle of Dogs — where Santa's grotto was empty and shopping bas-kets were full — someone appeared to have decided that God and Manmon might be better left apart. The volume of Asda FM, the in-store radio. which had earlier emitted periectly audible versions of So this is Christmas and Santa Claus is coming to town, had been turned so low that Dr Carey's words of wisdom were barely audible.

"So the good news of Jesus is for everyone, shoppers as well as worshippers," said Dr Carey, according to the text released so journalists in advance. "If we all work to show God's glory and love in the High Street, our society and this world will surely be a

About one million people turn out to shop in Asia stores on the Sunday before Christ-mas, only slightly lewer than the number expected to attend the Church of England on the

Nation remembers Princess with names of her sons

WILLIAM and Harry have rocketed in popularity among readers of The Times as names for boys in the wake of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. But Charles has declined dramatically following the death of the Prince's

Top spot for girls over the year in a survey of nearly 4.000 birth announcements in the newspaper is Olivia. James retains first place

among boys. As the nation mourned the Princess in September new parents named their baby

boys after her elder son. The frequency with which William appears in the births columns in September is douhelping to take the name from third place last year to second in the table this year.

Harry, similarly, is up by a third in September but, conversely, the appearances of Charles drop by a third over the same period. Over the year, Charles was well-favoured, rising four

places on last year. Diana's

christian name is nothing like

as popular as she was herself,

appearing just once in the lists, back in the spring. As well as Harry - which taken together with Henry would have knocked William out of second place — there is clearly much informality about. Jack makes a new appearance and Emma and Isobel rise several places

BOYS 1 JAMES (1) 2 WILLIAM (3) 3 ALEXANDER (4) 4 THOMAS (2) 5 EMMA () 5 EDWARD (6) 6 CHAPLES (10) B LUCY (5) 7 OLIVER (9) 8 GEORGE (5) 6 EMILY AS 8 HARRY (8) 9 ISABELIA(10) 10 BENJAMIN/JACK (=)

above last year's Emily and The rise of Olivia is intriguing since it has been rare for most of this century, only beginning to boom in the eighties, according to the Reg-istrar General's Index of 10 ALEXANDRA (-)

It began to climb up The Times lists in the nineties, at fifth in 1994 and second last

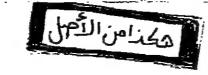
Deriving from the word 'olive", it was first popularised in 1600 by William Shakespeare in Twelfth Night, in which Olivia is a wealthy widow wooed by a rich Doke.

The thirties Hollywood star Olivia de Havilland made her name as a dutiful wife in Gone With The Wind, and in 1978 Olivia Newton John was woord by an altogener less glamorous John Travoltz in

the film Greats.
The name is, like most others on the list, seen as an aspirational choice for parents who want to conter pedigree

"It's done by parents who want to make sure their children are in a social class above them." said Leslie Dunkling. editor of the Guinness Book of Names, "so names in The Times list often appear in the national lists a few years

All of Beethoven's Symphonies in the palm of your hand.



Stockbroker's Thai

wife 'had him killed'

Drug-assault arrest

A 10-year-old man was questioned yesterday after a girl of 12 was dragged from a bus stop, drugged and sexually assaulted. The girl was found by police. After regaining consciousness she had run barefoot across a motorway.

Manchester police are waiting for chemical analysis of the contents of a bottle found near by. There was speculation that it might have contained Rohypnol, the so-called "date

Girl power takes top slot

The Spice Girls have hit the Christmas No I spot for the

The Spice Girls have hit the Christians No! spot for the second year running, beating the tribute single to Diana, Princess of Wales. Their single Too Much knocked the Teletubbies Say Eh-Oh! off the top. The Chicken Shed Theatre Company's tribute I'm In Love With the World could manage only fifteenth position. Last Christmas the Spice Girls had the No! with 2 Become I. William Hill is

offering odds of 10-1 on them repeating the feat next year.

A British stockbroker who allegedly cheated his Thai wife. Nongrut Tungkaburi, out of takings from her holiday island har was murdered by contract with his own Samurai sword, Thai police said yesterday. Roger Jennings. 56, from Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, was stabbed ten times with a knife and the sword from his own collection, after his wife had issued a £2,600 murder contract on the southern island of Phuket. She has confessed to conspiracy to murder after a three-day interrogation at Khatu police station, Phuket, according to Colonel Kokiat Wongvorachart.





A boy peering through the police lines outside the Church of Our Lady in Harryville at the weekend. The RUC has called for an end to the 16-month protest by loyalists

Sectarian ritual costs RUC £2m

TWO hundred Roman Catholies went to the Church of Our Lady in Harryville, Ballymena, at the weekend for the last Saturday night Mass before Christmas. So did three dozen Protestants, inspired by sectarian hatred.

The Catholics went to worship. The others - hardcore loyalist thugs - went to intimidate them, as they have every Saturday night for the past 16 months. The RUC was once again obliged to ring the paint-spattered church with armoured grey Land Rovers and at least 100 officers.

Last week. Superintendent mena's RUC commander, said that the bill for policing the ritual had reached £2 million. More than 50 officers had

been injured and 44 people arrested. He appealed for an end to it so that his officers could be put to more profitable use - an appeal greeted with

contempt.

The protests began in the summer of 1996 when Orangemen were stopped from parading to a Protestant church in the overwhelmingly nationalist village of Dunloy. Io miles away. Loyalists sought a suitable target for retaliation and settled on the Church of Our Lady, an angular edifice middle of a predominantly Protestant estate.

In the early months the

as 500 loyalists would gather to wave banners and scream obscertities at the churchgoers. Petrol bombs, rocks and missiles were hurled at the church. It survived an arson attack, but its elderly priest was forced to move from the fortified parochial house next door after his car was burnt and a breezeblock smashed through his study window. Three RUC officers had to

petrol-bombed. The violence has settled into 40 turn up regularly, although their numbers swell considerably when events elsewhere in Northern Ireland inflame sec-

move after their homes were

tarian tensions. They are coralled at one end of the graffiti-daubed street outside the church and are arrested if they shout obscenities. But their mere presence necessitates a huge police operation each week and creates the most oppressive conditions for worship.

The protesters are a surly. aggressive bunch. They include women, and children being reared in the same climate of hate in which their parents have spent their lives. ringleader. None will give their name. "Got any matches?," said one young man when asked if he wanted to

Martin Fletcher on the weekly intimidation of churchgoing Catholics gesture, the church cancelled the Masses for ten weeks during last summer's marching season, but to no avail.
The priests no longer speak have convinced themselves that they are victims, not to the media lest they inflame aggressors, and that Catholics from across the province are

the situation. A few of the congregation have been frightened off, but not many. now swarming to the church "There's a dogged dignity about the people," said Nuala each Saturday simply to provoke them. "Until the Orangemen walk in Dunloy.this O'Loan, whose husband's car protest goes on," declared one burly fellow, and his colwas attacked by the protesters as he left the church last year. They have never retaliated. They have come and gone, Outside the church doors,: half-a-dozen other Protestants even though people stage a vigil each Saturday shouted the obscenities." night to support their Catholic

think it's very sad. They are achieving nothing, and they're wasting appalling sums of

Smartcard revolution

The Government aims to deliver at least a quarter of its services electronically within the next five years, under a White Paper to be unveiled next year. "Smartcards" and digital technology, run by the Government and banks, would enable people to undertake a range of tasks from their homes and in shops, including collecting benefit. paying parking fines and renewing car tax and driving licences, a Cabinet Office spokesman said.

Legal aid fraud charges

Tim Robinson, 54, who defended "road-rage" killer Tracey Andrews, and ten of his former staff are accused of conspiring to defraud the Legal Ald Board. Mr Robinson is alleged to have been involved in a plot to submit false claims for legal aid payment. Other members of his former firm also charged are Paul Smith, Richard Hill, Howard Banton. Margaret Leith, Clive Randal Gerald Davies, Patrick Price, Christine Noble and Keith Pengelly.

Lockerbie trial plea

Relatives of victims of the Lockerbic air disaster marked its ninth anniversary by intensifying their demands that the two Libyan suspects be brought to trial. Families of the 270 people who died when the Pan-Am jumbo jet exploded over Lockerbie in Scotland on December 21, 1988, launched a petition in Edinburgh for the two to be tried under Scottish law in a neutral country by an international panel of judges, chaired by a senior Scottish judge.

Faults found in lifeboats

a major fault developed in their new American-made engines. Just months after completing a £1.1 million refit, the boats are being examined by technicians from Detroit Diesels after engine cylinder seizures. Old relief boats are standing in The Royal National Lifeboat Institution said: "Our call-outs will not be compromised at all, and we hope the fault will be sorted out by February."

Raid on fakes nets £1.3m

Counterfeit clothing, compact discs and computer equipment worth more than £1.3 million has been seized at the Barras market in Glasgow. Fourteen people, aged 16 to 43. have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal after the twoday operation by Strathchyde Police and trading standards officers. In April detectives seized counterfeit computer equipment, clothing and CDs worth more than El0 million in a series of raids on outdoor markets in the area.

Silent Night 'premiere'

The nation's favourite carol, Silent Night, will be broadcast in full for the first time by the BBC on Christmas Eve after three forgotten verses were discovered in a family library in Austria. The carol, to be sung in the original German with English subtitles, was written by Joseph Mohr, a hard-drinking Salzburg gambler who became a priest. It was first performed at St Nikolaus Church. Oberndorf, in 1818.

Labour plans majority of elected members in replacement Lords

AN ELECTED chamber of and will decide whether Britain should have an elected second chamber with en-200 members, with a further 100 being appointed, could replace the House of Lords. hanced powers, and how it Tony Blair has asked Lord would be chosen.

Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, to oversee the ahead with reform will be seen abolition of the rights of as an attempt by the Governhereditary peers to sit and vote ment to restore its radical credentials with party activists in the Lords by 1999. unhappy over benefit cuts.

But a new Cabinet committee known as CRP (HL), which Lord Irvine will chair and which will begin work next month, is to go much further

Richard. Leader of the Lords, Peter Mandelson. Minister without Portfolio, and Nick Brown and Lord Carter. Chief Whips of the Commons and Mr Blair's decision to push the Lords. It is expected that a Bill to

strip the 638 hereditary peers of their voting rights will be included in the next session of Parliament. But senior minis-The committee will also ters believe that the Governinclude Jack Straw, the Home ment should give its reform greater force and public sur-Secretary. Ann Taylor, the Leader of the Commons, Lord port by outlining its plan for a

replacement for the Lords. There appears to be growing support for a second chamber combining a majority of elected members but with a quarter or a third nominated, as life peers are.

Some ministers want the chamber to be called the Senate, with senators taking the place of peers. But it would have a strong independent element, achieved by appointing many who are now crossbench peers.

Dome seeks Hirst and Hockney aid

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

DAVID HOCKNEY and Damien Hirst are being sought by the creators of the Millennium Dome in Greenwich to inject their artistic vision into the E750 million project, which has been criticised for the secrecy surrounding its likely

four now service the church in

rotation - says a prayer for

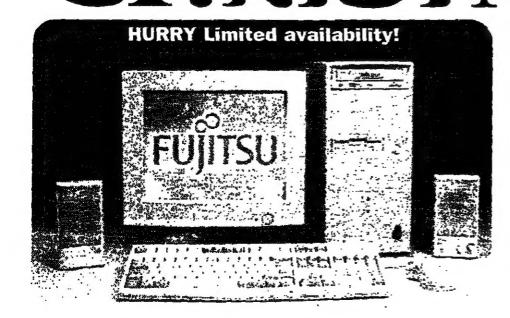
the protesters at the start of

services. As a conciliatory

contents. "We are very keen that there is a celebration of British art and that the visual dressing of the interior of the dome has contributions from our greatest artists." said a spokesman for the New Millennium Experience last night. Around a central amphitheatre the dome will be

divided into nine exhibition areas covering three themes; Mind. Body and Spirit; What We Do, which will focus on the past, present and future of culture and probably include demonstrations of game, surfball; and Where We Live, which will examine our local, national and international environments.

UNBEATABLE CHRISTMA



Fujitsu is the world's second largest IT company, with a turnover in excess of \$36bn, and operating on a global basis. The company has been operating for over 60 years, during which time it has become a market leader in desktop and mobile computing as well as in the areas of computer memory, display devices and software. This enhable position has resulted from its continued investment in R & D, (currently running at 10% of revenues) which has ensured the consistant production of reliable, leading edge products designed to meet the needs of the end user.

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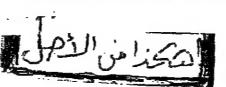
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Anguish from the dark heart of Africa



The Smitherams on the Zambesi with Andrew and Caroline McGowan

Libby Purves on the heartbreak two families

must endure after their children's killers fled jail

TWO British families, facing the first Christmas since the murder of their children in Mozambique, have learnt that the three killers have escaped from jail only eight weeks after being sentenced to life

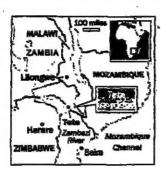
Andrew and Caroline McGowan were ambushed by bush bendits after taking Caroline's parents, Edmund and Anne Smitheram, to the airport in Harare, Zimbabwe, after a holiday in April. Mr McGowan. 35, a business consultant and his wife, 30, a teacher, were marched into

the bush and shot dead. "Our anger was to some extent appeased by the trial and the maximum sentence," Mr Smitheram said. "We are now devastated by this." Phyllis McGowan, the dead man's mother, said: "It has knocked us back very badly."

The capture of their murderers had been the culmination of a remarkable co-operation between British, Mozambican and Zimbabwean police. The bodies of Mr McGowan, a former army officer who served in Northern Ireland and the Falkland Islands; and his wife were not discovered until four days after they were attacked driving along a much-used corridor through

Mozambique. They were well settled in Africa. Mrs McGowan taught information technology, at the school in Lilongwe, Malawi, painted the stage for drama school magazine and ran, dishevelled and energetic, between classroom and

Her husband gave long hours and his own money to a Round Table project for reforestation in Malawi. "He felt that he was putting something into Africa," his mother said.



Smitherams. "The roles were reversed. We were the innocents," Mr Smitheram recalled. "Anne and I are not great travellers and when we first went we could hardly believe we were actually going to be in Africa."

The couple treated the Smitherams to a birdwatching safari, went on ferry on the lake at Kariba and an elephant ride. "We ended up at Victoria Falls. We were entirely in their hands. We worried about malaria and they were very meticulous in looking after us - mosquito nets, all that," Mr Smitheram said.

handit attack in the Tete corridor, but it is an essential link between relatively undeveloped Malawi and the Europeanised facilities of Zimbabwe. After dropping their parents at the airport the couple went shopping in Harare for a new fan for their house in Malawi before beginning to drive the 460 miles

There had been incidents of

vehicle headed along the dirt road towards the Malawi border, they left the populated maize fields for wilder, more desolate bush country. After slowing to cross a small stream and round a bend they were held up by men in army fatigues carrying AK47 rifles. were forced to walk 30ft into the bush and were shot. The

stolen : vehicle was crashed near Moatize village and picked up by the local police. No inquiries were made at the time, although their pass-ports were still in the vehicle. It was two days before the new school term began and Mrs

Ewan McGowan, the murdered man's brother and fellow-expatriate, began making his own inquiries. Eventually he and two friends drove into Mozambique, picked up news of the crash and began combing the bush.

tence, he found the bodies of his younger brother and sister-in-law. They had been married just two years. In a continuing nightmare of bu-reaucratic difficulty he managed to fly the bodies home.

At the time it seemed impossible the murderers would McGowan wrote a bitter, unpublished statement saying: Only now, a week after the event and after huge pressures, are they trying to do anything to catch the perpetrators of this atrocity. I cannot help but question why Mozambique has been allowed into the Commonwealth."

into the Commonwealth." (in That outrage was echoed by the families at home. Mr Smitheram is deputy head of the Royal Hospital School in Suffolk and there, in a room full of flowers and grief, he expressed the shock and bederment of a quiet English family blighted by this atrocity from the dark heart of Africa.

"The Foreign Office has said that the British High Commission is 'pressing at the highest levels' for an investigation. What does it mean? It is hard for us in peaceful Suffolk to know how things are in Africa. but you feel that the Commonwealth should be a family with the same values ... when British subjects come to an

end in this ghastly way in a Commonwealth member country I would have thought the government would be In the first confusing days

and protested against official inertia. Parliament was not land Yard and Zimbabwean sitting so there were no questions asked. Mrs Smitheram said at the time: "When, this damn election is over we shall fight and fight. We are not giving up. I would hire merceimpressed. naries myself to shoot them. But I don't want them just to drag some poor devil into

Down in Hampshire Ian McGowan, the dead man's father, had retired two days before the murders and set himself grimly Portugese so that he could contribute to the quest. The asked The Times not to publish their grief and anger. The details of the crime were so horrible that wide publicity in Britain could have become renophobic and damage the chance of cooperation from

prison to shut us up. I want

vocal about it."

the two sets of parents raged

It paid off. British police travelled out to begin a joint operation with the local force. Between June and August

three men were arrested: Ernesto Ferro, Paulino Nguaza, and Joaquim Ouembo. Forensic tests were done to British standards: the criminal prosecutors in Tete have formally acknowledged the contribution of New Scot-

In mid-October the Me-Gowans and Mr Smitheram flew to the Tete courtroom. Almost reluctantly, they were

There was an atmosphere of thoroughness and fairness,". said Mr Smitheram. "We are all convinced that the convictions are right. But also I felt .: that the local public who were in court were sympathetic to

us, and appalled. We were not made to feel making trouble. A number of families the process of healing people came and looked at my began. Then last Tuesday the people came and looked at my photographs of Andrew and Caroline."

He was able to address the court, through an interpreter, in the style of American victim statements. He said: "Caroline was our only daughter and is the last in our family line. With Andrew they were working for the future of Africa. and their reward is to be murdered.

Ewan McGowan made his own address: "Caroline and Andrews deaths will not be totally meaningless if a proper example is set ... the message given clearly and amequivocal ly by this court may help save

future lives." He asked for the maximum sentence: each of the men was devastating news - the killers had escaped. The men admitted when they they pleaded guilty to the murders that they were for-

telephone rang and the For-eign Office told them the

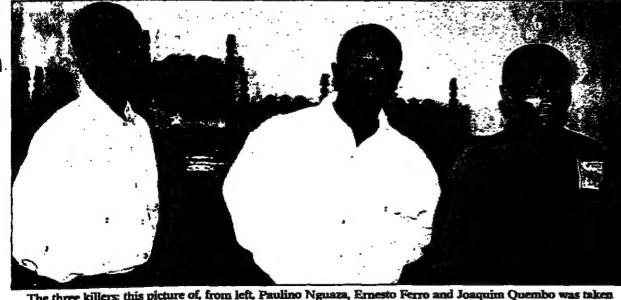
mer members of Renamo, the guerrilla movement that was backed by South Africa during the apartheid era against the left-wing Maputo government which left Mozambique devastated and impoverished.

Renamo is now a spent force in the area and it is more likely they were able to escape because of overcrowded and lax prison conditions than that they were helped to freedom or

bribed their way out. At Bishop Mackenzie planting a garden in memory of the murdered teacher and last week children and their parents, on what seems like another planet, collected for it at the Royal Hospital School carol service. Their deputy head stood among them sad, controlled and calm, not yet knowing that beyond the equator his child's murderers were free.

In the courtroom in Tete. Mr Smitheram was allowed to take their photograph: three young, hard, unreadable faces. It was intended merely to go into a file as final evidence that justice was done for his lost daughter. Now that... photograph has been sent to Mozambique, a country too poor to keep criminals' photographs on file, to help in the





The three killers: this picture of, from left, Paulino Nguaza, Ernesto Ferro and Joaquim Quembo was taken outside the courtroom. It has been sent to Mozambique to help the country's police in the manhunt

" Yard helps Chechen police as hopes rise for kidnap Britons

OFFICERS from Scotland Yard have met security chiefs in Chechnya in an attempt to secure the freedom two British aid workers held hostage by gunmen for five months. Camilla Carr and Jon James were running a playscheme for children in the war-torn capital. Grozny, when they were seized by kidnappers in

July.
In addition, President
Maskhadov is understood to have told David Willetts, a Conservative MP, that he believes the hostages could be free "in the near future". Mr Willetts flew to Chechnya as part of a wider humanitarian mission concerned smoothing the troubled relations between Russia and the



Jon James and Camilla Carr were captured in July

after a request by the Foreign Office to help their Russian

emerged hours after family

and friends of Miss Carr, 35,

and Mr James, 37, held a

News of the "low-key" visit

breakaway southern republic. There have been recent uncouple are safe and well and that ransom demands have been issued. The detectives have travelled to Chechnya

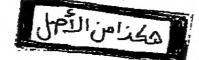
read and Miss Carr's 11-yearold son, Asbok, lit a barbed wire-covered Amnesty International candle. The families then appealed

for people to light their own candles as a gesture of support for the campaign to free Mr. James, of Lydney, Gloucestershire, and his girlfriend, of Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester. The service was filmed for Russian television and will be broadcast there next week in an effort to appeal to the captors.

special service in Bath Abbey at the weekend. Prayers were

Mr James, a builder, and Miss Carr, who worked at a community centre in Ross-on-Wye, were working for the Moscow-based Centre for Peacemaking and Community Development-





David Blunkett, an ardent supporter of new Labour, has revealed his credentials as a Cabinet rebel

How benefit cuts forced minister out into the open

IF TONY BLAIR were private performing ministers in the Cabinet since the election, David Blunkett would be one

Once a focus of suspicion for Labour's modernisers, Mr Blunken, both before the election and since, has eagerly embraced and promoted many of the new Labour reforms espoused by his leader. His readiness to remove any doubt over the future of existing grammar schools was of enormous symbolic Impor-tance to Mr Blair before May 1: perhaps only he could have pushed through the controver-sial plan for tuition fees for higher education without a substantial revolt. It is not hard to imagine the scenario if Harriet Harman had been given the task.

Which is why the emergence of his opposition to ideas for curting benefits for the sick and disabled - which must be at the heart of any serious attempt to reduce Britain's burgeoning welfare bill — is so significant. It also helps explain the background to a key announcement by Mr Blair. saved up for a speech in his constituency on Saturday and ultimately heavily overshadowed by the leak of Mr Blunkett's letter to Gordon

While the public disclosure of Mr Blunkett's uncompromising objection to many of the proposals under review at the Treasury and the Depart-ment of Social Security was a severe blow to the Government's composure over the weekend, it was no surprise to Mr Blair. He was sent a copy the letter which Mr Blunkett wrote to Mr Brown



Blunkett: complained in letter to Chancellor

on December 9, two days before 47 Labour MPs went into the lobbies against the proposal to reduce benefit for single parents.

There are almost certainly other (so far unleaked) letters from Cabinet ministers in the Whitehall system railing against various aspects of the no-holds-barred review being conducted with enthusiasm by Treasury that often tried and failed to persuade a Conservative government to adopt controversial cost-cutting measures. John Prescon has privately warned the Cabinet that it must achieve a consen-

sus for reform. So when Mr Blair went to Sedgefield on Saturday, he had already taken a decision that may hold the key to the

premiership.

He announced that he would head a working party charged with welfare reform and with reducing the near £100 billion social security benefit. It produced the inevitable "Blair takes charge" interpretation and was intended to do so.

If he did not know it already, the lone parent vote crisis had convinced Mr Blair that the issue of welfare reform, so sensitive to his party but crucial to its hopes for a lengthy period in office, had become the most difficult of all. "Education, education and education" may be his stated priority. But no subject will take more of his time or energy over the 12 years than trying to force through a programme that will be judged both by the number of people he can take off benefit and into work and the savings

he can make. He will be taking on a worried parliamentary party, and a deeply suspicious party in the country. And as Mr Blunkett's letter showed, he has trouble in the Cabinet as well. Comparisons can justly be made with Margaret Thatcher's battle against the "wets" in the early years of her government, and more recent ones with Mr Blair's own successful campaign to scrap Clause Four.

Although the working par-ty's membership has not yet been fixed — Mr Brown, Ms Harman and Frank Field have so far been mentioned -Mr Blair may think it wise to make Mr Prescott a member. At the end of the review Mr Blair will probably have to bang a lot of heads together to



Tony Blair and his son Euan at St James's Park yesterday. The Prime Minister allowed photographers to capture their outing to the match

come up with anything that EXTRACTS FROM BLUNKETT'S LETTER TO GORDON BROWN can be portrayed as a root-

and-branch shake-up. Mr Blunkett's intervention was not a good start for him. In spite of his protestations of support for the welfare review yesterday. Mr Blunkett will now be seen as the Cabinet champion of the cause of the disabled

Yesterday, in a skilful BBC Radio interview, Mr Blunkett could not have given a stronger endorsement to the principles of welfare reform, getting people off benefit into work, stopping scroungers, preventon benefit do better than those in work. He sounded again like the reformer rather than the Cabinet rebel portrayed in yesterday's papers and news broadcasts.

But therein lies the problem for Mr Blair. All of his Cabinet will happily back the broad objective of welfare reform. But when it comes to the specifies, they may not be so amenable. With disability benefits costing the country £23 billion a year, it is inescapable that they will have to be tackled and the bill reduced.

Leading article, page 21

confine the higher rate only to those who are "virtually unable to walk" if there were With disability benefits rising at 6 per cent per also to be a reduced middle annum in real terms there is rate for those who experience no doubt that the DSS faces

questions that have to be addressed radically. I must however express grave anxiety ... at some of the proposals that are being considered... While we would welcome

Dear Gordon.

humane and sensitively judged reforms to support disabled people to work ... deep cuts in the totality of support for those disabled people who either cannot work or can find only very modestly paid work would make a mockery of our professions on social exclusion and the construction of a more just society.

The misapplication of perhaps 12 per cent of spending on (the disability living allowance] has, of course, urgently to be stopped. Home visits and inquiries through questionnaires and datamatching would seem ap-propriate ways to tackle fraud and abuse.

Since DLA is a benefit intended to provide a contribution to the extra costs associated with being disabled, as opposed to compensation for loss of income, and since the level of award is already differentiated to take account of the actual condition of the disabled person, it would not seem appropriate to tax, let alone to means test, it.

We support a review of the mobility components, but we real pain or fatigue overquite short distances. We know that for disabled people mobility costs, especially transport to work, are

severe problem. Where we are strongly opposed to the thrust of the DSS's thinking on DLA is in the proposal for localisation. If localisation is to mean handing the well-being of disabled people, through DLA, to local authority social service departments, it will be a recipe for confusion, impoverishment and ance is the social contract. inequity. Cash-strapped local authorities will inevita-

bly fail to provide adequately and will probably end up being cornered. Capping — particularly capping of intensified sever-- will mean local authorities will not have the resources to provide adequate support for disabled people. They are a weak

political constituency, whose claims will be outgurned by the claims of education, housing and other interests. In any case, local authorities lack the administrative. tradition and means to cope with cash payments on the scale that would be required.

We recognise significant problems in relation to lincapacity benefit. The differenfrom job seeker'sallowance encourages

test encourages them to present themselves as incapable of work. The inadequacy of the eight-week linking period further discourages IB claimants from

trying out work. On welfare-to-work grounds we hope these probems will be addressed. . .

We also hope that incapacity benefit will be reviewed with a view to supporting disabled people to undertake voluntary activity, which is a good preparation for real work and is good for citizenship and social inclusion.

We disagree strongly with the suggestion that IB. should be means-tested. Arguably, national insur-

between Government, citizen and employer. To lose it would undermine social cohesion. The commitment to work must be secured by social insurance. Meanstesting -- seductive though it may be to achieve short-term economies - creates disincentives to work savings and honesty, in contradiction to the principle Harriet [Harman] has adopted.

it may well be appropriate to look to employers to provide [industrial injuries benefit] through private

To abolish industrial injuries benefit for existing claimants would surely be unacceptable politically. It would no doubt be a matter on which the Chief Whip would need to make a judgment. David Blunkett

Question is what sort of reform?

THE welfare state was defended by Tony Blair in a" speech to his constituency on Saturday. The following is an: extract of his comments:

"The choice is simple. Do we" think the current systems where we are set soon to spend? almost £100 billion a year butpoverty has rocketed, is fine? Or can we do better?

The question is not whether to reform but what sort of it reform. The system is not working as the country wants. it to. And yet people are saying. 'Don't touch the system.'
"We believe in the responsi-

bility of society to help those who are in genuine need, unable to look after them-

"We believe in the responsibility of individuals to provide for themselves where they can do so. And we believe that for those who can work, work itself is the best answer to

These were actually the guiding principles of Sir William Beveridge, well worth restating to see how far today's reality has departed from yesterday's vision.

And I would add a worth principle. The system should be designed so that fraud and abuse are minimized, and rooted out wherever they are

people to present themselves as disabled and the all-work would find it acceptable to **Christmas Special** By Jon Ashworth

Daytime calls are even cheaper on the

On the 25th and 26th December 1997 and 1st January 1998, daytime BT calls will be at the appropriate weekday evening/night-time rates. This applies to all local, national and international calls, whether direct-dialled or operator-connected, as well as BT Chargecard.

BT It's good to talk...this Christmas

Lilley calls on Robinson to quit over deals

GEOFFREY ROBINSON, the Paymaster-General, faced fresh calls for his resignation yesterday amid claims that he broke the law by failing to disclose full details of share dealings linked to a Guernseybased trust.

Mr Robinson, who is facing growing public disquiet over his complex financial arrange-ments, is thought to have breached the Companies Act 1985 by failing to disclose all stages of a share transaction involving TransTec, the engineering company he founded. The Act says that a company director is under an obligation to notify the company of any deal to buy or sell shares.

The claims met with an angry reaction from the Con-

servatives, who repeated calls for Mr Robinson to resign. Peter Lilley, the Shadow Chancellor, said: "Last week Tony Blair told the House of Commons that Geoffrey Robinson had not avoided any UK tax and that he had not broken

the law. The latest revelations tell a different story." He added: "Line by line, Geoffrey Robinson's statements have been ripped apart. His credibility has been shot

to pieces. He should resign." The register of share dealings by Mr Robinson in TransTec suggests that the entry concerning deals in 1996 is incomplete. It shows that he acquired an interest in 9.8 million TransTec shares in August 1996, but not that he had the right to buy the shares at below market price, netting him a profit of £882,000.

The rights were sold to Stenbell, a UK company under Mr Robinson's control. which in turn struck a deal with the Guernsey-based Ori-on Trust, of which Mr Robinson and his family are beneficiaries.

Orion effectively put up the money needed to "exercise" the rights, before buying the shares from Stenbell. Doing the deal in stages had the effect of distancing Mr. Robinson. from Orion.

Mr Robinson is thought to have fallen foul of UK company law by failing to disclose all stages of the Stenbell-Orion deal. The Companies Act 1985 falls under the Department of Trade and Industry, which declined to comment

Mr Robinson yesterday stuck to a prepared statement issued on Friday in which he denied allegations of impropriety, and said he saw no reason why he should resign as a Treasury minister.

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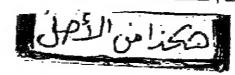


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Question 18 What sort of reform

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Skegness, the Christmas star in the East

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Damian Whitworth finds the windswept resort is the number one destination for discerning holdaymakers

THIS year's dream Christmas destination? Skegness. Turn up in the windswept Lincolnskire coastal resort on Christmas Eve and you will be told there is no room at the inn. If you wanted a view of the North Sea you had to book months ago:

Thousands may be flying but of Britain for the ski slopes or the Caribbean sun spots, but "Skeggy" is this year's unlikely hit. According to tour-ism chiefs it is all because of Skegness's Victorian charm.

Bob Suich, head of tourism

for East Lindsey District Council, said: "A lot of people think Skegness is dead at Christmas, but this year has taken off to such an extent we're finding the season is about to roll into one. We used to shut down for the winter. now we're gearing up for it. Christmas in Skegness has become massive.

"People come here to get away from it all. It's mainly people whose sons and daughters have grown up and have families of their own and are in search of a relaxed traditional break, away from the hassle and stresses often associated with Christmas.

"Visitors are attracted by the friendly nature, it is good value for money and provides relaxing walks along the sea-front with fresh clean air. It's a great place to recharge the batteries. Though the average temperature at this time of year is 6.5 centigrade, we are known as being on the drier side of Britain."

In the summer, the population of 16.000 quadruples to fill 60,000 beds. Traditionally, many of the hotels and caravan sites have shut up shop for the winter, but in recent years more and more have stayed open and this year the council has declared that Skegness now has one, year-long

Gordon Cartwright, 58, chairman of the Hoteliers Association and proprietor of the White Lodge Guest House.



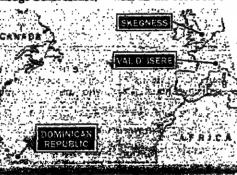
Town always appealed to the outdoor type

valled more obviously glamorous resorts.

The trend has been more and more for people to go away for Christmas and coming to Skegness is very easy because it's near the Al. We've got as much to offer as foreign holidays. There's lots to do, plenty of entertainment.

Neither should the weather put people off, he insisted. "It's bracing," he said indignantly, echoing the travel posters of yesteryear. The tourist board sell Skegness air in cans."

His guests are obviously not impressed with the alternatives, skiing in the French Alps, for example, or lazing on the beaches of the Dominican Republic: Mr Cartwright has been booked up for his three-night, full board Christmas break at £154 per person since last Christmas. "We can't fit everyone in during the Christmas week, so we've been packaging Christmas in week-ends for the last four weeks. Guests arrive on Friday night, which we treat as Christmas Eve, and we serve up fish and chips and festive drinks. Saturday is treated as Christmas. Day with all the trimmings on offer, and Sunday is Boxing Day. The weekend is mixed with all the usual festive food



SKEGNESS

walks along sandy beaches bingo, indoor bowls. Christmas Day dance at the Embassy Centre. On Boxing Day a spectacular by students of the Janice Sutton dancing school opens at the same venue. Fish and chip shops open on Christmas Day

for Bunterish types still hungry after lunch. Cost: three nights full board, including Christmas lunch, at White Lodge,

Weather: Fresh, or freezing, depending on whether you come from Skegness or not. Downsides: See above.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



four-star accommodation on the beach, with warm seas for endless watersports and golf courses in the hinterland. Barbecues under the stars, endless rum punches

Cost from £700 for a

fortnight all-inclusive with Thomson.

Weather: temperatures in the high 80s, humidity low, almost guaranteed

Downsides: er, doesn't sound like it.

VAL D'ISERE



Altractions: one of Eutope's most popular skiing resorts, with excellent lifts and generally free of posing celebrities and characters from Hello! After a day on the pistes. where better to kick off the apres ski and compage tans than in Dick's Tea-Bar?

Cost: a Christmas break in a Ski Company chalet starts at £1,484. Weather: the snow has not been good so far, so the pistes are icy and ... crowded. Downsides: so full of English people you will probably meet some-body from the office.

and drink, as well as traditional activities such as dancing

and hingo.

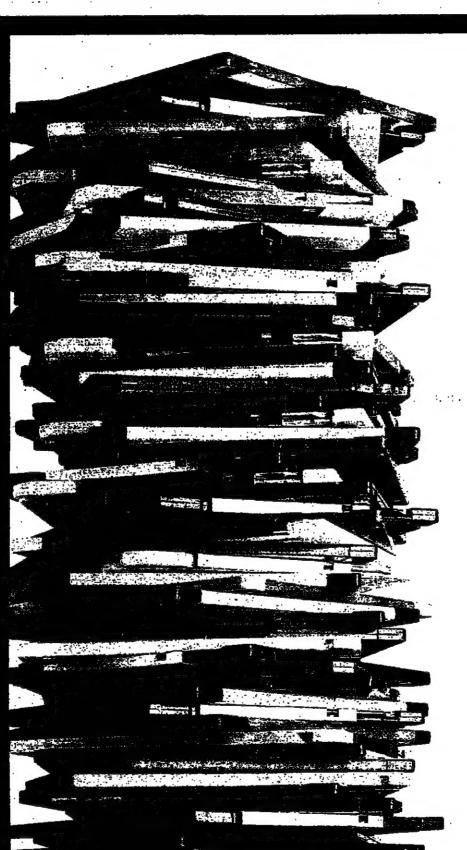
Jim Childs, who with his wife Christine runs The Vine, an 18th Century Victorian hotel just off the seafront, said this year was the best Christ-mas he had ever seen in Skegness. "The town's auraction is typically British and traditional for Christmas time. It's order and relaxation. It's defintely a Victorian style Christmas holiday and, judg-ing by the increasing popularity, it appears more people want that."

Others, such as Bob Marsden, 48, who runs the Caxton House Hotel, have more prosaic reasons for the influx. "I can only guess it's because people get stuck in a

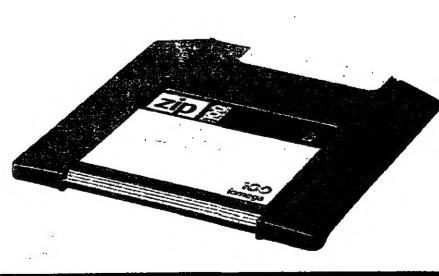
"I think a lot of people come to a place like this because for so many years they've got fed up of the hassle of a family Christmas. Rather than picking and choosing who to spend Christmas with and risking offending relatives, they take the easy way out and book a week away."



Santa Claus, who arrived in Skegness yesterday, is in for a busy time as the resort's hotels and boarding houses are booked up for the holiday



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Driver held after brothers die in cycling trip crash

yesterday after two brothers and their brother-in-law were killed on a cycling expedition.

The three men were in a collision with an estate car while they were riding mountain bikes on an unlit country road. The crash happened at 5.30pm on Saturday near Blyth, Northumberland. Police have detained the 36year-old driver involved. They were granted an extension to the custody time yesterday evening, which meant they could detain him until this

morning.

The dead men, who all had children, were Henry Harrison, 38, Alan Harrison, 33. and Don Smith, 49. Raymond Walls, 25, a distant relative. was cycling with them but suffered only a broken leg. Mr Walls was released from hospital and is recovering with

All the men were wearing

7

A FAMILY was in mourning reflective clothing at the time of the accident, which happened as they were returning home after a cycling trip to nearby Seaton Sluice.

Henry Harrison, known locally as Bryan, was a former bus driver, and was described as a devoted single parent who looked after his eight-year-old son David, Alan Harrison, a recently qualified quantity surveyor, leaves behind a wife. Clare, and a five-month-old baby Jessica.

Mr Smith, a plumber, was married to the brothers' sister Elizabeth. He had two children from a previous marriage and Elizabeth has three

The brother of Henry and Alan. Peter Harrison, 36. said. "We are all yesterday: "We are all stunned. We have been up all night and just can't believe what has happened. Everyone is devastated." He added: "They were keen cyclists and

had lights on their bikes. They wore reflective clothing too.

There are around six of us who have been cycling for two years on mountain bikes. We are not in any club, we just do it for a bit of fun and exercise. We would go out and enjoy ourselves whenever we could.

close. We see each other every day. It is impossible to comprehend the loss we feel. "This has completely devastated us. We are all very close

and have lived in each other's

The whole family is very

pockets for years."

The fourth Harrison brother. John, 45. lives in New Zealand. There are four sisters in the family. Peter said that the whole family traditionally got together for Christmas. He said: "Christmas will still go on. We are still a family and we will have to have Christmas for the sake of the children. I don't think I'll be using my bike again."



Cheryl Tooze and Jonathan Jones: she fought to free him from jail after he was convicted of her parents' murder

Freed man celebrates girlfriend's pregnancy

A WOMAN whose elderly parents were shot dead is expecting a baby by the man wrongly convicted of their murder. Cheryl Tooze and Jonathan Jones have been told their baby is due on the fifth anniversary of the

Mr Jones, 37, said yesterday it was "spooky" that the July 26 coincides with the date Harry and Megan Tooze were killed. Cheryl Tooze battled to free Mr Jones after he was convicted of murdering the pair at their isolated farmhouse in Llanharry. Bridgend. South Wales. He was released from jail in April 1996 after the Court of Appeal found the conviction unsafe.

Ms Tooze, also 37, said: We are both delighted. It's the best thing that's happened to us in years. It's as if my parents wanted July to be a happy month for me again, although of course it will always be a sad time.

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Scots to vote often for their new assembly

By Shirley English

THE first elections to the Scottish parliament will take place on Thursday. May 6, 1999, the Covernment announced yesterday. The ballot will be the first in Britain to use a form of proportional representation.

The vote will be conducted on the same day as local government elections in Scot-land. Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, said he hoped that combining the two elections would encourage more people to vote for what will be Scotland's first parliament in

almost 300 years.
The elections will be held subject to Parliamentary approval of the Scotland Bill. published last week.

Mr Dewar also confirmed mounting speculation that the cost of the new parliament building was likely to be considerably higher than the £40 million estimate, set out in the Devolution White Paper in July. It has now been suggested that the building could cost between £80 million and

E100 million. Initially the Scottish Office, which will foot the bill, believed that 12,000sq m would be sufficient to house the 129 members of the Scottish par-

liament (MSPs). But visits by: civil servants to other modern parliaments in Europe revealed this would be too small." Mr Dewar said: "We have got to have a building that is fit, that has dignity and the appropriate facilities. We are going to have to add a considerable amount of square footage. So the original estimate for the building itself is likely

to go up."
The location for the parliament will be chosen next month from a shortlist of four sites. Feasibility studies ordered by the Government will be made public tomorrow.
Three of the sites are in Edinburgh city centre and one is outside the city, at Leith docklands.

It is unlikely that the building will be completed in time for the first sitting of the parliament, and accommodation

sought.
Under the new PR electoral system. Scots will be given two: votes: one to elect one of 73: constituency MSPs and the other to elect a regional MSP. or "additional" member. Individuals, or independents, would be allowed to stand as additional members.



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SONY

Duchess of York reaps benefit from season of goodwill

Health scare has given her a rare burst of sympathy from a press which suddenly sees her as a victim of the Royal Family, writes Alan Hamilton

THE Duchess of York sets out with her daughters. Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie, for their Christmas holiday at Sandringham today, wafted on their way by a breeze of unusually sympathetic press coverage.

Sunday newspaper readers could have been forgiven for imagining that the duchess, portrayed as downtrodden and hard-done-by, had started a media offensive to wreak revenge on a Royal Family pictured as dumping her in 1992 with a pittance of a divorce settlement compared to that negotiated by her fellow outcast, the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

Yesterday, however, the duchess's spokeswoman dismissed any suggestion of a loncerted campaign to win sympathy and a possible renegotiation of divorce terms. She ascribed the sudden upsurge in friendly interest to tabloid overexcitement at the duchess's hospital appointment last week, when an hour-long consultation and a biopsy confirmed that, whatever she might be suffering from, it was certainly not cancer.

What is known, however, is that the duchess, who has paid off her £4.2 million overdraft at Coutts, faces a demand for more than £700,000 from the Inland Revenue for her 1996 earnings, and that, to sort out her financial affairs, she has retained Anthony Julius, the lawyer who negotiated Diana. Princess of Wales's £17 million divorce settlement. When the duchess divorced in 1992, she received £800,000, plus a further £1.4 million placed in trust for her children.

"She has finally realised what she should have done long ago: that she needs professional representation, rather than pring to resoliste



The Sunday papers gave the duchess unaccustomed backing as she set off for Christmas at Sandringham

contracts herself," the spokeswoman said.

She was unable to say whether the duchess had instructed lawyers to seek a better deal from the Queen to cover the cost of bringing up her children. Buckingham Palace said yesterday it knew nothing of any attempt by the duchess to renegotiate terms.

After last week's rash of cancer scare stories, the chorus of "poor Fergie" was resumed on Saturday, with the Daily Mail suggesting that the duchess's health might be suffering from being frozen out by the Royal Family, and being billed by the Royal Household for such niggardly items as £75 for lightbulbs for her temporary home at Sunninghill Park, and £100 for laundry during a visit to Balmoral.

"There is concern that she is eing brought almost to her knees. Sarah is said to be not only depressed, but fright-ened," the Mail said. Such fine detail as lightbulb bills is garnered only when leaked to sympathetic newspapers by unnamed and unknown sources wishing to advance the duchess's cause and ensure some small degree of

rehabilitation for her on the

edges of the Royal Family.
Yesterday's Mail On Sunday continued the offensive, painting a picture of Dickensian bleakness of how the duchess will spend Christmas alone in Wood Farm on the Sandringham estate watching videos, while her children are up at the big house partying with their grandmother, their father and the rest of the Royal Family.

"Having managed to clear so much of her overdraft, it would only be human of her to

help her clear the rest," the paper said.

paper said.

The rival Express yesterday published a story suggesting that the Queen had delivered "the final insult to Fergie" by refusing to allow her to convert the stable block at the Yorks' former marital home at Sunninghill as a residence for herself and her daughters. "The duchess, recovering from a virus infection, stress and exhaustion, believes it's the

the Express said.

The Sunday Times claimed that the duchess would try to negotiate more money from the Queen to cover her children's living expenses. Their school fees, and an annual living allowance of £2,000 for each child, are paid by their father from his £37,000-a-year Royal Navy pay but, the paper claimed, the duchess was still left severely out of pocket.

final act of being frozen out,"

The duchess's spokeswoman said yesterday that some of the reports were exaggerated. "She is quite relaxed about going to Wood Farm for Christmas; it is exactly the same arrangement that has pertained for several years past. As for not being allowed to convert the stables at Sunninghill, it was a possibility that was briefly considered eight months ago, but there have been no further developments."

Although the Queen and the duchess are said to remain on friendly terms, any attempt to make peace with the duchess is likely to be resisted by the Duke of Edinburgh, who has always considered her somewhat vulgar, and who was reportedly furious at her interview on American television when she said that she had turned down an invitation to last month's royal golden wedding service in Westminster



The Duke and Duchess of York with Princess Beatrice at the ballet on Saturday

Abbey because she had not been asked to any parties afterwards,

Friends, and even the official spokeswoman, had to make rapid excuses for her remarks, saying that they were completely out of character because the duchess was so confused and exhausted by a frantic work schedule. Despite the best efforts of the weekend papers, winning sympathy for the duchess is not the easiest of tasks.

The former butler to Diana, Princess of Wales, is expected to receive a £50,000 bequest from her will, according to reports yesterday, Relatives of

the Princess asked for the bequest to be made to Paul Burrell, whom she called "my rock". Lawyers acting for the Princess's estate went to the High Court last Thursday to add extra legacies to the £21 million will, which had not been updated at the time of her

Tribute to Diana will swell Queen's audience

By ALAN HAMILTON

AFTER years of declining interest, the Queen's traditional Christmas broadcast is likely to have its biggest-ever audience this year, with demand fuelled by the death of

Diana. Princess of Wales. Although Buckingham Palace has resolutely refused to disclose the contents of the programme in advance, the Queen is believed to have included a moving tribute to her former daughter-in-law The programme, recorded by the Queen at Windsor last week, will include footage of the Princess's funeral as well as shots of the Queen's controversial tour of India and Pakistan, her golden wedding celebrations at West-minster Abbey, and the restoration of Windsor Castle after the fire.

Suggestions that the Queen perform live, in the wake of her live address before the Princess's funeral, were eventually rejected in favour of a pre-recorded documentary-style ten-minute programme.

A recent opinion politicated that the tension was

A recent opinion poll found that this year's was likely to be watched by a record audience, after a recent decline. Last year's audience was 11 million. from 17.4 million in 1985.

Continuing media interest

Continuing media interest in the Princess's death prompted her mother. Frances Shand Kydd, to issue an appeal vesterday for peace and privacy over Christmas, after Paris-Match published what it claimed to be her daughter's last interview.

In a handwritten messag faxed to the Press Association, Mrs Shand Kydd said: "During the last few days. many speculative articles have been printed concerning my daughter Diana. Christmas is as difficult for her beloved sons. William and Harry, and for all her family and close friends, as it is for all families who have recently suffered a bereavement. I ask on behalf of Diana's family, that we may all be left in peace and silence by the media.

Pall-bearer hired by Al Fayed



Bartlett, second from left, carrying the Princess's coffin

ONE of the pall-bearers at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, begins work today as a security guard for Mohamed Al Fayed (Tim Jones writes). Philip Bartlett, 23, one of 12 Welsh Guardsmen who carried the coffin on to the gun carriage at Kensington Palace, said he considered it a privilege to work for the Harrods

wner. He will begin his Eló,500-ayear job on the shopfloor of the Knightsbridge store and hopes eventually to be part of the "A team" responsible for Mr Al Payed's protection.

Mr Bartlett, of Brecon, Powys, said that, after the funeral, he sent Mr Al Fayed a photograph of the Weish Guards carrying the coffin. "He wrote back to say he would never forget how a single carnation thrown by someone in the crowd stayed on the coffin because we held it so still."

The guardsman, who left the Army a week ago after serving for four years, was one of 50 applicants for the post. He said: "The protection of VIPs is my field and that is where I see my future.

"I decided to leave the Army because I could not see myself progressing beyond the rank of guardsman. I played rugby all the time for the regiment and that meant there was no time to go on promotion courses. In any event, although I loved the Army. I wanted more freedom and more time to be with my girlfriend and my little daughter, Bryony."

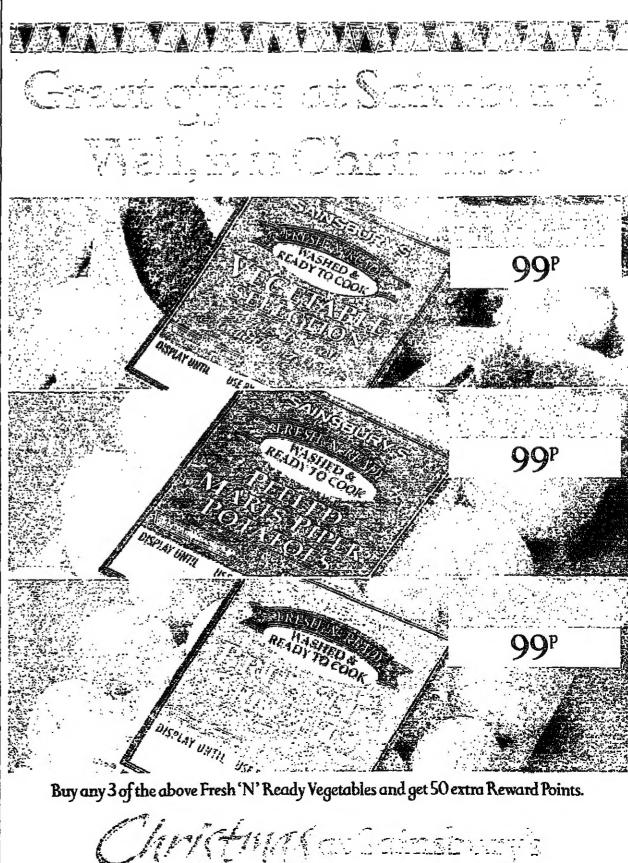
Recalling the funeral. he said: "The moment I will always remember is when we saw Diana's coffin for the first time. We were all choked by the wreath on top with the card which said 'Mummy. When we walked out of Kensington Palace the emotion of the crowd hit us like a brick. I still can't express how I felt. It was a great honour, but also one of the saddest moments of my life."

Mr Bartlett believes he can

Mr Bartiett believes he can progress in the organisation to a post similar to that held by Trevor Rees-Jones, the bodyguard who survived the crash that killed the Princess and Dodi Fayed.

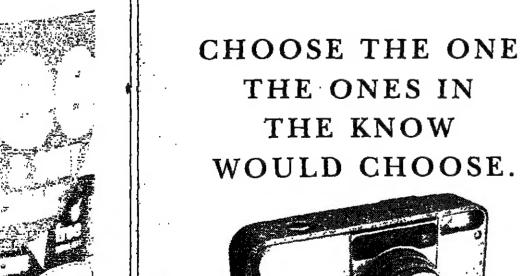


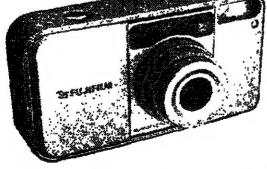
Bartlett: he hopes to become a bodyguard



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Public service is a case of jobs for the boys

WHITEILALL EDITOR

WOMEN are still heavily outnumbered by men on public bodies, according to figures released by the Cabinet Office. Some % per cent of appoint-

ments to the Ministry of Defence last year went to men. At the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the split is 88 per cent men and 12 per cent

Ministers and senior officials are clearly embarrassed by the generally poor record of women's appointments, which is disclosed in Public Bodies, the annual audit of such organisations, which was quietly released in the Commons last week. One Whitehall source explained that, as most of the information applied to the previous Government, it was thought better to release the document without a fanfare.

The Scottish Office has the best record in government for

MEN FORM THE MINISTRY Department Male Female Percentage 2,047 1,327 2,799 925 4,761 270 382 480 43 55 2,539 68 784 57 1,822 931 1,705 536 2,659 144 143 163 13 59:47 59:41 62:38 63:37 64:36 65:35 73:27 74:26 77:23 Home Office Northern Ireland Social Security Education & Emp Culture, Media, Sport Welsh Office Int Development Foreign Office Trade and Industry Treasury
Envrnment, Trispt, Regions
Cabinet Office
Lord Chancellor's Dept

Public Bodies 1997 (Stationery Office, £15.50)

women. In the Welsh Office, however, ministers are deeply concerned that they are un-able to find suitable women candidates to fill vacancies on

ernments had operated a "jobs for the boys" system in Wales and, within weeks of office, he caused a furore in government suitable for public appoint-ments and placed advertisements in the Welsh press, inviting people to send in their names for consideration. Last week, however, he

called an urgent meeting of Welsh women MPs to lament the fact that just 29 per cent of applications came from

The Ministry of Defence last night insisted that it was making every effort to give women more opportunities in the Armed Forces and throughout the organisation. More women were being recruited to frontline posts in

Harriet Harman, the Cabinet Minister in charge of women's issues, and Joan Ruddock, Minister for Women, are certain to order urgent action to address the situation. They have embarked on regional visits to try to encourage women to put their names forward for public appoint-



Joan Ruddock, left, and Harriet Harman: encouraging women to put their names forward for appointments

Repeal of sex discrimination laws 'would help job prospects'

BY NICTIOLAS WOOD

WOMEN would be better off without laws banning sex discrimination at work, according to a right-wing attack on feminism.

A forthcoming report from the Institute of Economic Affairs says that the free market offers women a stronger guarantee of equal oppor-

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equal pay, state-subsidised childcare, and affirmative action measures to persuade employers to recruit women.

David Conway, the author, believes that the approach of most feminists is neither necessary nor effective in promoting women's interests. These measures are both costly, ineffective and deprive

primary carers of their children, which many still appear to want to be," Professor Conway, of Middlesex University, says in a draft of his report A Woman's Place is in the

77:23 78:22

unfettered operation of the free market is the best means of

allowed to pay men and women different wages for the same work. In such a free-for-all, women would be able to move into areas traditionally dominated by men by undercutting their wages. If they female-only businesses.

Professor Conway says that the

"Otherwise, the discriminating

firm would go out of business."

In a further act of beresy, he condemns plans for state-subsidised childcare as restricting the choices available to couples. The costs of the State providing or subsidising childcare would so increase tax rates as to compel many women to work, even though

own pre-school children at home." He also rejects affirmative action as "profoundly flawed" because such policies are self-defeating and there are no good reasons for

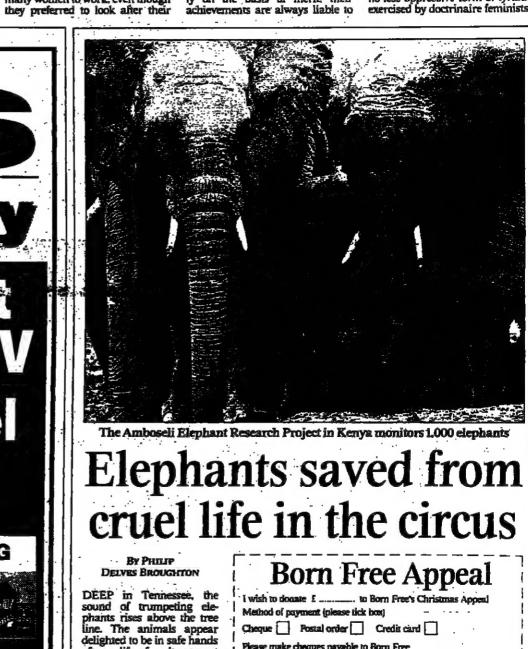
the injustices of the past. "Unless women are appointed and promoted solely and exclusive-ly on the basis of merit, their

compensating today's women for

be supposed by themselves and others to be owed less to their merit than to discrimination in favour of

He says that "free-market feminism" is the way to advance women's opportunities at work. Women have not escaped the tyranny of men to fall victim to a no-less oppressive form of tyranny



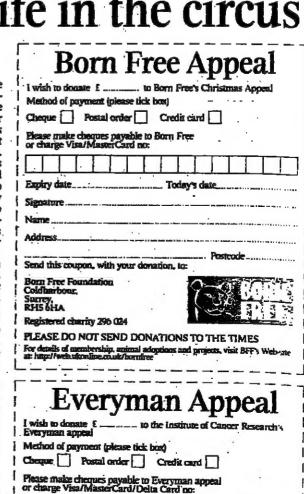


after a life of maltreatment on the road with circuses. Their sanctuary stretches across 112 acres of wooded pasture; it is run by two Americans, Carol Buckley and Scott Blais, with help from the Born Free Foundation, one of the two charities nominated by The Times for its Christmas appeal.
Jenny the elephant had

been in circuses for 27 years when she was taken to the sanctuary. She was blind in one eye, had a broken and infected tusk and diseased hind feet. In six months she has rediscovered her spirit. She scrambles all over the sanctuary and has put on a good amount of weight.

The foundation's support for work with elephants is not limited, however, to the American Deep South. Since 1989, it has lent its muscle to the fight against the trade in ivory. In Tanzania, it has given two Toyota Landcruisers to the Government's anti-poaching patrols in the north and central areas of the country. It also assists in the maintenance of vehicles that cover thousands of bumpy miles.

For the Amboseli Elephant Research Project in Kenya, the longest-running field research project for elephants in the world, the foundation has recently bought a vehicle and camera equipment. It has paid for one of the researchers to do a three-month course in statistical analysis at Sussex University, which will help in the monitoring of 1,000 eleohants around Amboseli.



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Worst outbreak of meningitis is likely to escalate

worst outbreak of meningitis, the deadly brain and blood poisoning disease, for half a century. Experts are urging the public — especially par-ents of young children — to be vigiliant over Christmas and the new year as December and January are the worst months

Julia Warren, of the Meningitis Research Foundation, said yesterday: "We are at a 50-year peak. Why, we do not know. But it may be that people's immune systems are suppressed, making them more susceptible to the

This year there have been more than 2,300 cases of the two most severe forms of the disease, meningococcal men-240 deaths. But Ms Warren said cases this year were likely to surpass the 1947 total of 2,500. The highest number of cases this century was during

TUMBLER TEST

If the patient exhibits a rash, press a glass firmly against the skin. If the spots fail to disappear, this could indicate

the war years of 1942-44, when there were 12,000 to

13.000 cases annually.

Experts believe that the extremely high level of cases was due to people living in close proximity in army barracks or air raid shelters. Meningitis is spread when people are in close contact, such as when kissing or if someone sneezes.

The foundation has launched a television commercial featuring a simple test using a glass. If a rash is discovered and is still there after being pressed with a glass, the patient should seek urgent medical help.

"In many cases last year parents found out too late that a child was seriously ill. The disease is very difficult to diagnose as the symptoms are similar to flu, but people have to trust their instincts and seek

Parents are being advised to be vigilant at the worst time of year for infection. Experts advise them to use a simple and quick test that can save lives, reports Nick Nuttall

60 per cent of sufferers get both inflammation of the

brain and blood poisoning. At St Mary's Hospital in West London, paediatricians

have treated 100 seriously ill

children this year, more than

the number treated last year.

Doctors at the hospital are taking part in an international

trial of a treatment that app-

ears to stop septic shock

killing the most seriously ill

patients. They are treating patients with a protein synthesised from white blood

cells. "It blocks the cascade of

toxic shock that sets in when

patients have septicaemia," said Saul Faust, who is help-

ing to conduct the trial.

something more serious. The glass test is very effective and we have 30 people who we believe are still alive because they used it."

Valerie Bright, of King's Somborne in Hampshire, believes that using the tumbler test saved her daughter Hayley, 3. "Hayley was taken ill during the night," she said. "She was sick several times and had a temperature. I thought it was a stomach bug, but, after she woke for the third time. I spotted a rash and spots on her legs and

"I remembered seeing a television advert which recommended using a tumbler on a rash to see if it might be meningitis. If the rash stays, you should call a doctor. Hayley's rash stayed and I rang my GP straight away. He came and gave her

"He said we had to get her to hospital quickly. Waiting for an ambulance would have meant too much of a delay. So we put her in a neighbour's car for the 20-minute drive to the hospital. By the time we got to hospital, she was slipping into unconsciousness and had gone into shock."

Her daughter was put on a drip and given more antibiotics to combat the infection. Doctors praised Ms Bright and her GP for acting so quickly. "We were told that, if we had left it another hour, Hayley might well have died." Ms Bright said.

Doctors are also warning parents of older children to be vigilant. They have been alarmed by a 30 per cent increase this year in the num-ber of cases of meningococcal septicaemia, particularly among adults under 25.

Meningococcal meningitis causes an inflammation of the brain: meningococcal septicaemia causes blood poisoning that can lead to organ



St Mary's Hospital in West London: testing new therapy for septic shock resulting from meningitis

Readers' quest for calm leads to stampede

BY PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

THE most extraordinary publishing success of the year has been The Little Book of Calm. Hundreds of thousands of people have paid £1.99 for a book just 3in by 4in and contain ing no more than 1,000 words of advice.

This week the book was at No 2 in the paperback bestseller charts. It has been in the top ten since its publication in October last year and has sold 1.4 million copies. Next year the sequel, Calm At Work will be published by Penguin.

The book is the work of Paul Wilson, an Australian advertising executive, who has followed the career path of such advertisers as Peter Mayle and Nicholas Evans, author of The Horse Whisperer.

Wilson's book is a hotchpotch of every alternative health and cod philosophical notion on the market. He recommends the "rediscovery of milk" for the relaxing powers it contains, even though it would take gallons of the stuff to have a noticeably relaxing effect.

He advises on deep breathing and, for bad sleepers, he suggests a

tips include: "Declare today a holiday", and "Make friends with a masseur". On his Calm Web site. Mr Wilson, who is pic-

tured in meditative pose expresses his admiration for meditation. He writes: "I've always been interest-ed in meditation for what it it is. I just like the way great achievements come from being calm."

For one so calm, Mr Wilson is remarkably dy-namic in the promotion of his business. Calm is a burgeoning trade. He produces Calm CDs with titles including Orchestrated Calm, Masters of Calm and Deep Calm.

He has run the Calm Centre in Sydney since 1995. It is described as "a think-tank involving psychologists, natural therapists, film-makers, comp-

osers and musicians His methods have been attacked by psychologists, who believe he is selling platitudes that deal in superficialities. But Mr Wilson daims: "Clinical proof can get in the way of things that actually work for people."

A scif-help guide, page 17



Joseph, his half-brother Tony, and the tumbler he urged his mother to use that may have saved Joseph's life

Boy's life saved by watchful brother

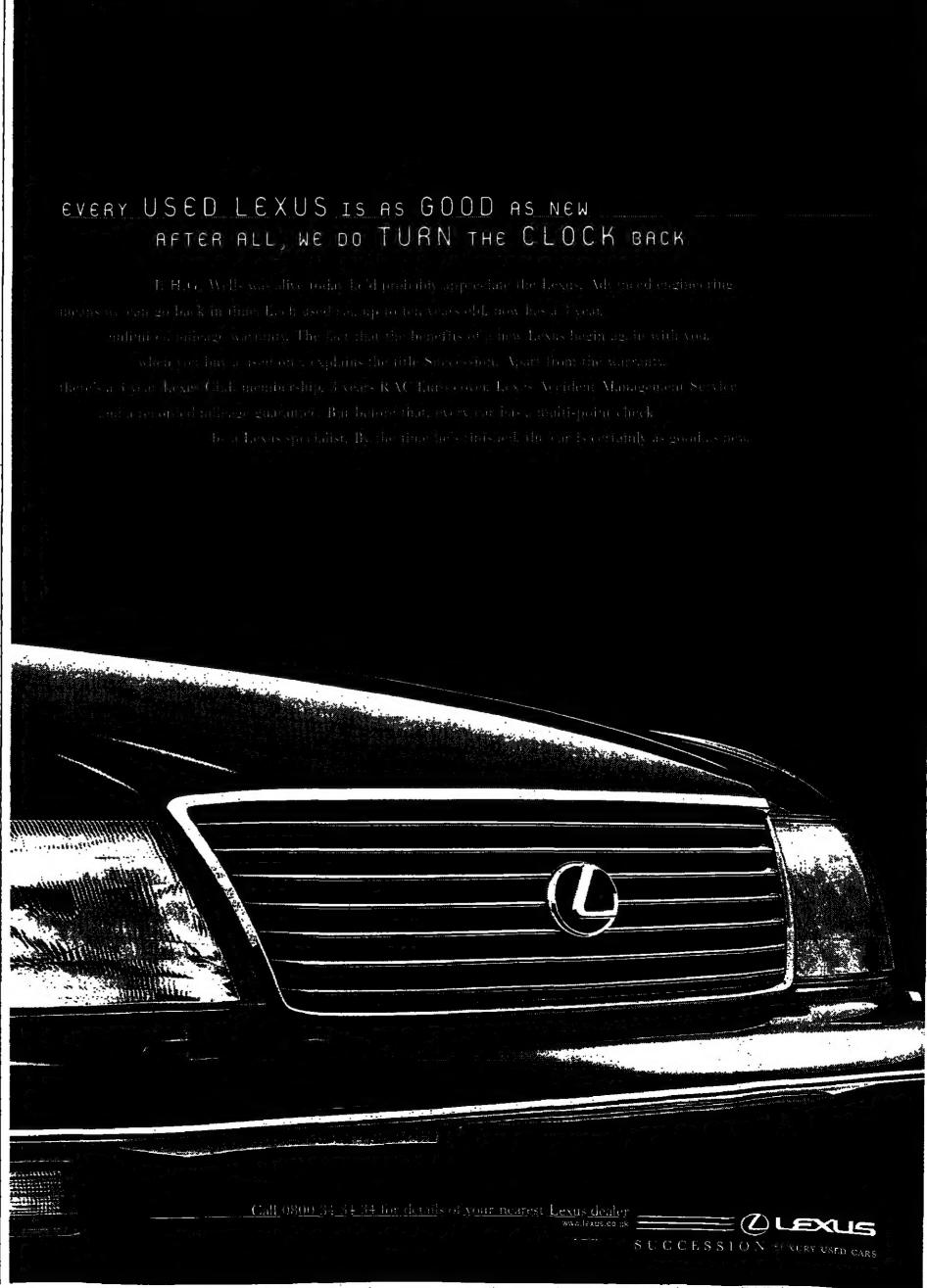
TONY SCOTT may have saved the life of his four-yearold half-brother when experts failed to detect meningitis.

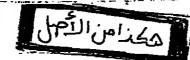
Tony, 14, was unconvinced when a doctor said the rash on Joseph Earle's body was a virus. When spots started to appear on Joseph's feet, as well as his stomach, Tony urged his mother, Susan, 35, to do the tumbler test he had

seen on television. She pressed a glass on to Joseph's feet and the spots remained. She telephoned the doctor and Joseph was quickly admitted to hospital where meningitis was diagnosed. Jo-seph has his half-brother to thank that he escaped with nothing worse than a minor vision defect.

His stepfather, Gary, 34, a bus driver from Blyth in Northumberland, said: "What Tony did was excellent. He saved Joseph's life because he had meningococcal septicaemia and we caught it early."

Tony said: "People say I have done very well, but I'm just glad I saw the advert and was able to do something."





Cost of family Christmas goes down — by £9

INFLATION may be running at 2.8 per cent, but at least one thing is falling — the cost of Christmas.

The bill for the average family's Christmas is £209.50, down £9 from last year's total and the first fall in at least four years. However, the figure is almost 3'a times more than it was in 1977, according to the longest established Christmas price index calculated in Britain.

Particularly useful savings were registered on the costs of Christmas trees, crackers, cards and gift wrapping, with cheaper gin. brandy and pudding also contributing to the improvement. But potatoes have trebled in price since last year, and turkey, brussels sprouts, mince pies, chocolates, Christmas cake and beer are also more expensive.

The index was devised by a Conservative MP who became Minister for Consumer Affairs and chairman of the National Consumer Council. The basket of items chosen to represent the "average" family's Christmas is odd in several respects: the index insists on fresh turkey, at 11.35 a pound this year, although most turkeys are

Falling price of crackers,

trees and gin

is welcome gift for 'average'

family, writes
Robin Young

sold frozen. in which form they cost a mere 49p a pound. The turkey apparently goes unstuffed and without trimmings. The index does not mention bacon, chipolata sausages or cranberry sauce. The family is also expected to survive Christmas without a single satsuma or any other

They do not drink wine and have only one pint of beer between them, although they drink three bottles of spirits. When the figures were first calculated in 1973 by Baroness Oppenheim-Barnes, then

Sally Oppenheim, Conserva-

cost of providing a married couple and two children with all the Christmas trimmings itemised in her list was £34.89½. Mrs Oppenheim claimed in 1977 that, under a Labour Government, the cost of Christmas had doubled since 1973, and she produced a shopping list to prove it.

The Times has recosted the

same items regularly since 1978, revisiting the same North London supermarket to compare prices. Many things have happened to complicate the calculations in the intervening years. Metrication and changing habits have induced manufacturers to abandon some of the weights specified by Mrs Oppenheim.

This year's 12lb Christmas pudding, for example, is in fact a 454g (1lb) pudding with a second of 227g (2lb) added to make up the weight. Most puddings in the shop, with descriptions such as "tuoury", "connoisseur" and "extra rich and fruity", were pricier.

Where equivalents were no

longer available, it was assumed for the purpose of this year's calculation that the family had no choice but to buy the nearest alternative.

Being a supposedly "average" family, "luxury" or "premium" qualities have been ignored where more basic goods are offered. How-

This year, for example, it became impossible to boy sheets of wrapping paper in special promotion reduced from 89p. The shop had no

was substituted, saving E2.16.
The saving on Christmas cards owed something to the fact that, last year, the store had sold out early of its cheaper ranges.

Being a supposedly "average" family, "luxury" or "premium" qualities have pushed this year's total above

pushed this year's total above that for 1996.

The three bottles of spirits

are the supermarket's own brand, but all are 5cl smaller than they were in 1973, when the standard bottle size was still 7scl. The solitary pint of beer, of course, comes from a Buinsh supermarket, not Calais, where it might have been bought for 14p, or a pub, where it might have cost

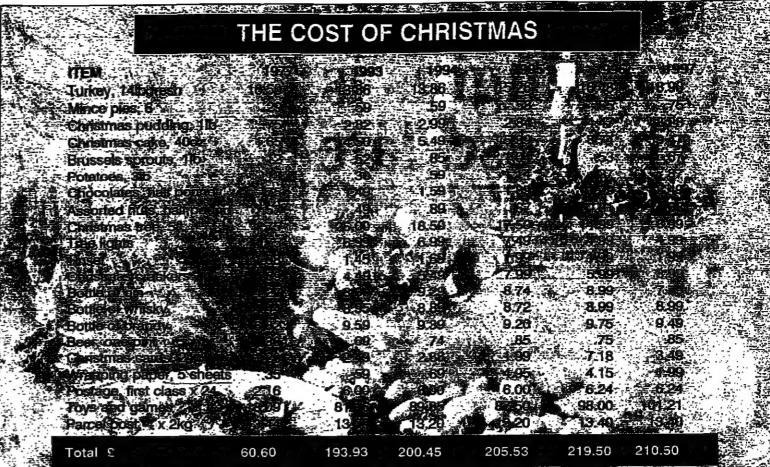
As always, it would be possible to buy many of the goods more cheaply from discount stores or market stalls. Toy prices, in particuiar, vary widely and no modern child would be content with the meagre choice of games and toys available in our supermarket.

None of the toys and games in the selection priced in 1978 remains on sale, so we priced an up-to-date selection from those now in stock. Even so, that included nothing from the Spice Girls or Teletubbies

The £101 we spent on toys is

not much above the national average per child, but is supposed to buy presents for two. Even so, family expenditure on toys, up 5½ times since 1977 in our survey, has shown one of the more rapid escalations in the list. Among the most stable prices in the list are those of the muts,

brandy and the turkey.
The complete figures for 1977, 1993, 1994, 1995, last year and this are given in the chart



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Drink-drive campaign 'undermined' by pub prices

BY TIM JONES

A GOVERNMENT minister yesterday criticised pub land-lords for undermining the Christmas drink-drive campaign by charging extortionate prices for soft drinks.

ate prices for soft drinks.

Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, said he was outraged that, in some bars, a pint of lemonade could cost more than a pint of beer.

Unless prices were reduced, he said, he would introduce orders forcing licensees to display the prices of soft

Mr Griffiths said: "With all the duties on beer, I think it is absurd that a pint of lemonade can be more than a pint of alcohol. High prices for soft drinks fly in the face of the Government's drink-drive campaign. If every pub followed the practices of the best, there would be no need for government action."

Although soft-drink sales in pubs are worth more than II billion a year, customers, he claimed, were offered little choice, poor quality and small measures. "I cannot instruct the pub trade to charge a certain amount, but I can force them to list their prices, though I am hoping some kind of agreement can be reached."

In some pubs, customers are charged the equivalent of £3 a part for a bottle of mineral water. Some of the biggest mark-ups are for soft drinks mixed on the premises using syrup and carbonated water.

Mike Ripley, of the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association, dismissed the complaint as "a very common moan and a very British one". He said: "If people want cheap orange juice, then they should go to the supermarket and not to the pub. Seats in pubs have certain costs, whatever the customer is drinking. But at



sminins: said price o emonade was absure

Christmas and New Year there are all kinds of offers for drivers who are not consuming alcohol."

ing alcohol."

Mr Ripley claimed that a tour of any bar in the world would confirm that soft-drink prices in Britain were the cheapest. "I do not believe it is justified to say the price of soft drinks is hampering the drink-drive campaign."

Many pubs, he said, already

Many pubs, he said, already displayed soft-drink prices and a general order would not be resisted by the trade. Already, after discussions with Department of Trade and Industry officials, some pub chains have agreed to reduce the price of soft drinks.

One landlord said: "As usual, the politicians show they do not really understand the trade. Profit margins are low and we cannot afford to have office girls sitting down for an hour drinking orange squash at 10p a go."

PINT OF WATER CAN COST UP TO £3

Beer drinkers in the South of England, where prices are higher than the rest of the country, can expect to pay between £1.80 and £2.20 for a pint of bitter, or between £2 and £2.40 for

But a tectotaller whose tipple is tonic water or ginger ale would need far more money to have a word time

At the Old Rose pub in Wapping. East London, his pint of ginges ale would cost £2.80.

Mineral water would set him back between £2 and £3, and orange juice up to £3.40.

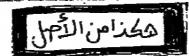
i.40. A gin and lonic averag out at about £1.90, while a half-pint of orange and soda will set the customer back 90p.

A customer would have to fork out about £1.20 for a small whisky, while a modest slurp of sherry will cross the counter for £1.40. At the Abercrombie in central Manchester, a pint of ale costs £1.50 and a pint

of lager EL70.

A small bottle of orange juice will sell for the equivalent of E3 a pint.

A gin costs 51.36 and the tonic to go with it 73p. Drinkers of mineral water will pay the equivalent of about £2.50 a pint, while a great philosophic 51.26



Millennium doom at site of Armageddon



The end of the world is virtually nigh, Christopher Walker reports

ISRAEL is to use the latest in computer technology to provide millions of pilgrims flocking to the Holy Land with the ultimate experience at the spot marking the world's ultimate barriefield.

The biblical site of Armageddon, which in Hebrew means the Mount of Megiddo, is to be transformed for the millennium into an "intellectual theme park" where pilgrims will experience the final battle between good and evil that many Christians believe will signal the end of the world.

The state of the s

indaion "

ichmined

Judy prices

At present best known for its fortress-style maximum security prison housing hundreds of Pales-tinians accused of terrorist of-fences, the site of the apocalyptic vision outlined by John on the island of Patmos in Revelation, the last book of the New Testament, is set to become one of the most coveted spots for those seeking a special religious experience in and around 2000. As one headline put it: "Israel plans a hell of a party at

At a cost of millions of pounds and in co-operation with the com-puter giant IBM, Israel will begin work next month in creating what the planners describe as a "virtual Armageddon" on the historic mound of stones and palm trees overlooking the spectacular Jezreel Valley where the final battle is

Standing astride the great trunk road known to the Romans as Via Maris, from Egypt in the south to Syria and former Mesopotamia in the north, it has throughout the ages been the scene of mighty

These ranged from the bloody encounter between the forces of Pharson Thumose III and a coalition of Canaanite kings in the 15th century BC, through the biblical clash between the Israelites and the Canaanites recounted in the Song of Deborah (Judges v) to the heroic defeat of the Turks at the



Zeev Margalit: knows plan is being dubbed "Apocalypso"

end of the First World War by General Edmund Allenby, later to become Lord Allenby of Megiddo. With a combination of computer graphics created in a system

known as "magic windows", holograms, sound and light shows and the imaginative siting of 14 new multimedia "vistors' centres", the project involves a controversial attempt to bring the past alive while trying to put flesh and blood

6 Let all who live in the land tremble. For the day of the Lord is coming ... like dawn spreading across the mountains, a mighty army comes, such as never was, nor ever will be in

on the words of Old Testament prophecy in Joel ii, I, describing the future battle meant to usher in the end of days: "Let all who live in the land tremble. For the day of the Lord is coming ... like dawn spreading across the mountains, a large and mighty army comes, such as never was of old, nor ever

ages to come ?

of the project is Zeev Margalit, who is aware that cynics and religious purists alike are dubbing the ambitious scheme "Apocalypso" and accusing the planners of cheapening the extraordinary past of Armageddon

Sitting in his Galilee office perched over the Jezreel Valley, with Nazareth clearly visible some 20 miles away and Israeli warplanes, roaring overhead on their way to bombing missions in Lebanon, the only sound disturbing the bucolic calm, Mr Margolit said: We will not allow this to become a Disneyland of the Apocalypse. The orders are to maintain a fine balance between culture and emotion and to avoid the result being

A secular Jew working for the Israeli equivalent of the National Trust, Mr Margolit, 40, is keenly aware of his responsibility in interpreting events for Christian has an awesome significance.

"If what many of them believe is true, this office could be the last place on Earth left standing," he oked, thumbing through a sheaf of plans. "I know there are many Christians not convinced that the forces of good will necessarily triumph over those of evil."

The religious significance of Me giddo to Christians around the world was signalied in 1904 when it was chosen as the spot for the Shazar of Israel and Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, with Pope Paul VI, whose fleeting II-hour stop in the Jewish state was part of the only papal visit to the Holy Land in recent times.

Although the current Pope has yet to announce whether he will follow in his footsteps, Israel is preparing for up to ten million pilgrims between now and the end of the millennium year - the Vatican has declared it a "sacred duty" to visit the Holy Land in the



years 1998-2001. "We expect an cal work at Megiddo between 1925 increase of visitors to the Christian holy sites in Israel in the next few years," said Archbishop Libero Andreata, the man responsible for Catholic pilgrimages for the

Mr Margolit said: "What we will be offering will be unique, although an experiment with the computer technique we will be using - much more advanced than the 'virtual reality' of today — has already been made at an imitation

medieval village in Belgium." His spartan office once housed the famous University of Chicago team which pioneered archaeologi-

and 1939. The shaded tennis coul they left behind is still witness that excavating 6.000 years of history comprising 20 super-imposed cities was not all work and no play.

Megiddo was abandoned in the 4th century BC and never resettled. Should the lure of this doom-laden biblical site, along with the more conventional venues of Bethlehem and Nazareth spark the imagination of Christians worldwide, Israel has devised an emergency scheme to house pilgrims in tented cities and kibbutzim if numbers exceed the five million now expected to make the journey to the Holy Land.



Pope Paul VI and President Shazar of Israel at Megiddo. 1964

Jesus was born in 12BC, astronomer says

JESUS CHRIST was born 12 years earlier than is believed, according to a leading Italian astronomer, and we have just lived through the year 2009.

While the Western world telebrates Christmas and the Giovanni Baratta has also revised conventional thinking on the reign of the Emperor Augustus and the origin of the Star of Bethlehem

Those who fear the Third Millennium can sleep safely in their beds." he said. "The year 2000 has been and gone. We are in the last days of 2009 and about to enter 2010." He admits this is not the first time Christ's birth has been redated. Johannes Kepler, the 17thNew calculations suggest we are

almost a decade into the next century, Richard Owen writes

century astronomer, suggested Jesus was born seven years

earlier than thought. But Professor Baratta, 55, an astrophysicist at the Rome Observatory, said he had discovered new evidence after "many years of study", draw-ing on biblical sources. Roman history and astronomy. The most crucial errors had been made in the 6th century AD by the Scythian monk Dionysius Exiguus,

known in English as Denis The Little. Denis, an accomplished mathematician and

astronomer, arrived in Rome after the death in 496AD of Pope Gelasius the First, who had summoned him to reorganise the pontifical ar-chives. In S25AD he drew up the calendar which became accepted throughout the West, But Denis, the profes-sor says, failed to take into account the Year Zero -

between IBC and IAD — and also ignored the four-year period when the Roman Emperor Augustus was on the throne (31-27BC) under the name Octavian. Denis also omitted the first two years in which the Emperor Tiberius ruled after Augustus, his step-

father, died in 14AD. This seven-year error would appear to support Kepler's theory. Professor Baratta says. On the other hand, Kepler's evidence rested mainly on his identification of the Star of Bethlehem as described by St Matthew, Kepler concluded, Professor Baratta says, that this referred to the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in 7BC. But in redoing Kepler's calculations, the professor had discovered

serious discrepancies.

Professor Baratta's research pointed to L2BC, when an unusually bright and fiery "travelling star" had ap-peared between the constella-tions of Gemini and Leo. "It was in fact a cornet, and was observed by the Chinese as well as by European astronomers of the time."

He admits his evidence is not conclusive. But all the data lead me to conclude that before we think he was. This does not affect our belief in his divinity this Christmas, but it does affect our

Bhutto plan to weed out corruption

Karachi: Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani opposition leader and a target of corruption allegations, yesterday proposed a national plan to best

She said large investors viewed Pakistan "as a land to avoid, not invest in, as our institutions are deemed beyond repair".

She proposed that anyone elected to public office must declare all financial holdings. She also called for better wages for government employees and for stiffer penalties

for corruption in the civil service. Ms Bhutto, twice elected Prime Minister of Pakistan, was sacked by President Leghari in November last year for alleged corruption and misrule — allegations she denies. Mr Leghari was forced to resign this month in a power struggle with Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister.

At Pakistan's request, Swiss authoriues have blocked around SFr 20 million (58 million) held by her and her family. (Reuters)



Benazir: wealth frozen in Swiss banks

Arafat angry over West Bank claim

2 FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

YASSIR ARAFAT strongly criticised Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday for declaring that the West Bank was an integral part of the land of Israel. The President of the Palestinian Authority said the statement was "dangerous", and meant that the Israeli Prime Minister believed the West Bank was part of the Jewish state.

Mr Arafat said he would never give up his claim to any part of Jerusalem. He said: We will not accept the Judaisation of Jerusalem or the ceding of one grain of soil of holy Jerusalem." Mr Arafat was speaking to reporters in Gaza City on his return from talks with President Mubarak

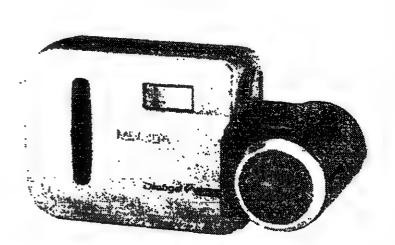
of Egypt in Cairo. Mr Netanyahu told Jewish journalists in Jerusalem last week that the West Bank was

said most European countries tended to interpret Israel's struggle in terms of their own colonial past. "Most of them think that Judaea and Samaria 1the biblical names for the West Bank] is some colony like Algeria or possessions in Africa and of course neither is true, neither in the geographic nor in the strategic nor in the

national sense," he said. "We don't have a body of water separating Judaea and Samaria — the West Bank — from Israel proper. It is part of Israel proper. It's in the centre of the country.

Mr Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Illan, said that the Prime Minister's comments had been misinterpreted. What was intended was that Jews had strong ties to the area since biblical times when it "part of Israel proper". He was the heart of the kingdom.

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Tensions darken festive mood in Bethlehem

LIFE in Bethlehem has be-come insufferable for many members of the dwindling Christian minority. Increasing Muslim-Christian tensions have left some Christians reluctant to celebrate Christmas in the town at the heart of the story of Christ's

"I do not dare to go out on Christmas Eve any more. The Muslim boys call me and the other Christian girls whores. They spit at us, try to force us to wear headscarves and in the [Islamic] fasting month of Ramadan that begins in a few days, the Palestiruan police even arrest us for smoking or eating on the streets," said Lina Atallah, receptionist at the Salesian Convent and Church on a street scarred with intifada slogans.

Decimated by emigration and for the past two years living under the Muslim-dominated Palestinian Authority. Bethlehem's Christians now make up less than a third of the 39.000 population, compared with 80 per cent during the period of the British Man-

date which ended in 1948. In the so-called Greater Bethlehem, which had only five mosques in 1970, there are now 72. Manger Square, the area in front of the Church of the Nativity, is packed with Muslim worshippers every Friday because there is no longer enough room for all of them to pray inside the imposing Mosque of Omar.

When Diana Saman was a her street only 300 yards from

celebrate the birth of Jesus in public, writes Christopher Walker in Bethlehem the square, the focus of world-wide televised Christmas cele-

Alleged intimidation by Muslims has made many Christians reluctant to

brations on December 24. were bedecked with colourful lights and carol singers went from door to door, Today. most of her neighbours are Muslims, and when lights are hung outside they herald the start of Ramadan. Like many Bethlehem

Christians, Mrs Saman, 42 no longer celebrates Christ-mas in public. "It does not feel like Christmas. I would rather stay home," she said. Her sentiments were echoed by Ranna Najjar, another Christian housewife in the West Bank town where the Muslim birthrate far outstrips that of the Christians. "The city is not ours anymore. We gave up the

city," she said. Ms Ataliah. 28. regrets returning from Texas to Bethle-hem after the 1993 peace treaty which ended 27 years of Israeli military rule there.

"The Muslims want to get rid of us. They want us to live like them. The Jews put up road blocks and stop us even going to the holy places in Jerusalem without a special permit," she said. "Life for the Christians in Bethlehem is like being in a cage."

In Beit Sahur, an Arab

village at the centre of the Christmas story, being the spot where the Angel visited shepherds to tell them of Christ's birth. Muslim-Christian tensions are even greater. In August, a mob of 200 Christians stormed the local police station manned by Palestinian Authority police after an Islamic militant attempted to enforce his strict dress code on a young Christian woman in a low-necked top. Seven people were injured in the ensuing fracas.

"Muslims in the city are fundamentalists," said one of the Christians involved in that protest. Christian anxiety was reinforced last Christmas when one Bethlehem Muslim prayer leader attacked Christian beliefs over the mosque loudspeakers. "Jesus is not the urod, ne is an ordinar man. All the deeds that the Christians talk about are deeds of deception.

A report published two months ago by the Israeli Prime Minister's Office concluded that Christians are exposed to unceasing persecu-

been destroyed, monasteries broken into, and their telephone lines disconnected," the report says.

Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said after a visit to the Holy Land in 1993: "My fear is that in 15 years. Jerusalem, Bethlehem - once centres of a strong Christian presence - might become a kind of Walt Disney

Christian theme park."
His vision of the birthplace of the Christian religion becoming a place where outsiders tend the shrines for the sake of visiting pilgrims only is becoming more a reality with each celebration of Christ's birth.

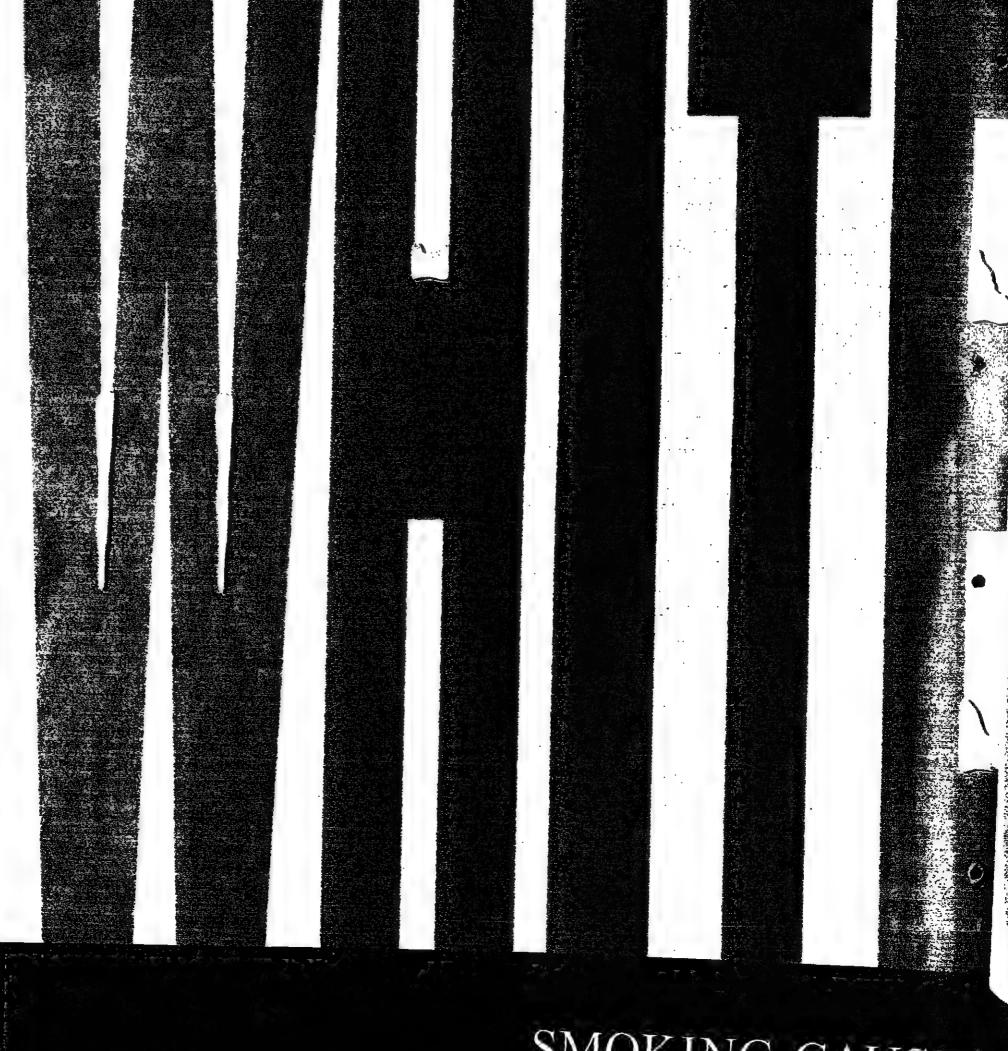


Dolls of the infant Jesus at a souvenir shop in Manger Square, Bethlehem. The square is now regularly crowded with Muslim worshippers



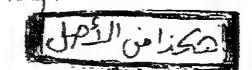


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THE TIMES MONDAY DECEMBER 22 1997

'Iraq faced threat of nuclear attack

PENTAGON planners briefly considered the option of using a lowyield tactical nuclear bomb against Saddam Hussein's biological weapons in Iraq, according to an American television network

The weapon, known as the Bol. which has been developed since the gulf War, is designed to penetrate deep into underground bunkers and — with an explosion that generates heat up to 20,000F (7,600C) — to incinerate germ.

warfare agents.

The Bol, was considered, said NBC News, because even if OS forces knew where to strike they do not have a conventional weapon that can reliably destroy biological agents on contact. Secret tests proved that dropping conventional bombs on biological targets would probably backfire, spreading a deadly phume of germ-laden fellour.

Fear of a political backlash led to the nuclear option being ruled out; officials told Jim Miklaszewski, NBC's Pentagon correspondent. That leaves a brutal and sustained conventional bombing campaign as the primary option for American war planners, should President Clinton give the go-ahead to use Pentagon considered

using new bunker bomb to destroy

germ weapons,

Ian Brodie writes

force in response to Saddam's refusal to co-operate, with UN

weapons inspectors.

US intelligence officials were said to believe that the chances of success now are no better than during the Gulf War when, according to a CIA report, American bombs failed to destroy a single

biological weapon in the Iraqi

arsenal.

If there is another air campaign, US bombs would probably be aimed for the first time at Iraq's oilfields and at Saddam's Republican Guards, who do much to keep his

regime in power.
All these revelations were part of an in-depth analysis by NBC of the threat posed by Saddam as he continues to defy the UN Security

Council. Among its other findings were that Saddam, now 60, consolidated his power at a meeting of the Baath Party in 1979 when he pointed out people he saw as disloyal. After each was escorted from the room, they were shot.

A brief video clip of the scene from CIA archives was shown. Saddam's behaviour was described by Anthony Lake, Mr Clinton's former National Security Adviser, who said: "With a look on his face like that of a boy tearing the wings off a fly, he took a cigar and moved it around his subordinates, picking out those to be taken away on the ground of treachery. He was enjoying every minute of it."

Saddam favours Armani suits.

Cuban cigars and gold-plated pistols, but is more interested in his place in history as a great Arab leader. "the next Nebuchadnezzar", than any earthly pleasures.

American spy satellites are constantly trying to listen in to Saddam to pinpoint his location. When they succeed in intercepting his words, the voice print is sent to Menwith Hill, the secret American listening post near Harrogate.

Saddam, obsessed with his own security, never sleeps in the same



Saddam chairs a meeting of his security council at the weekend amid claims that Iraq had struck a new food for oil deal with the UN

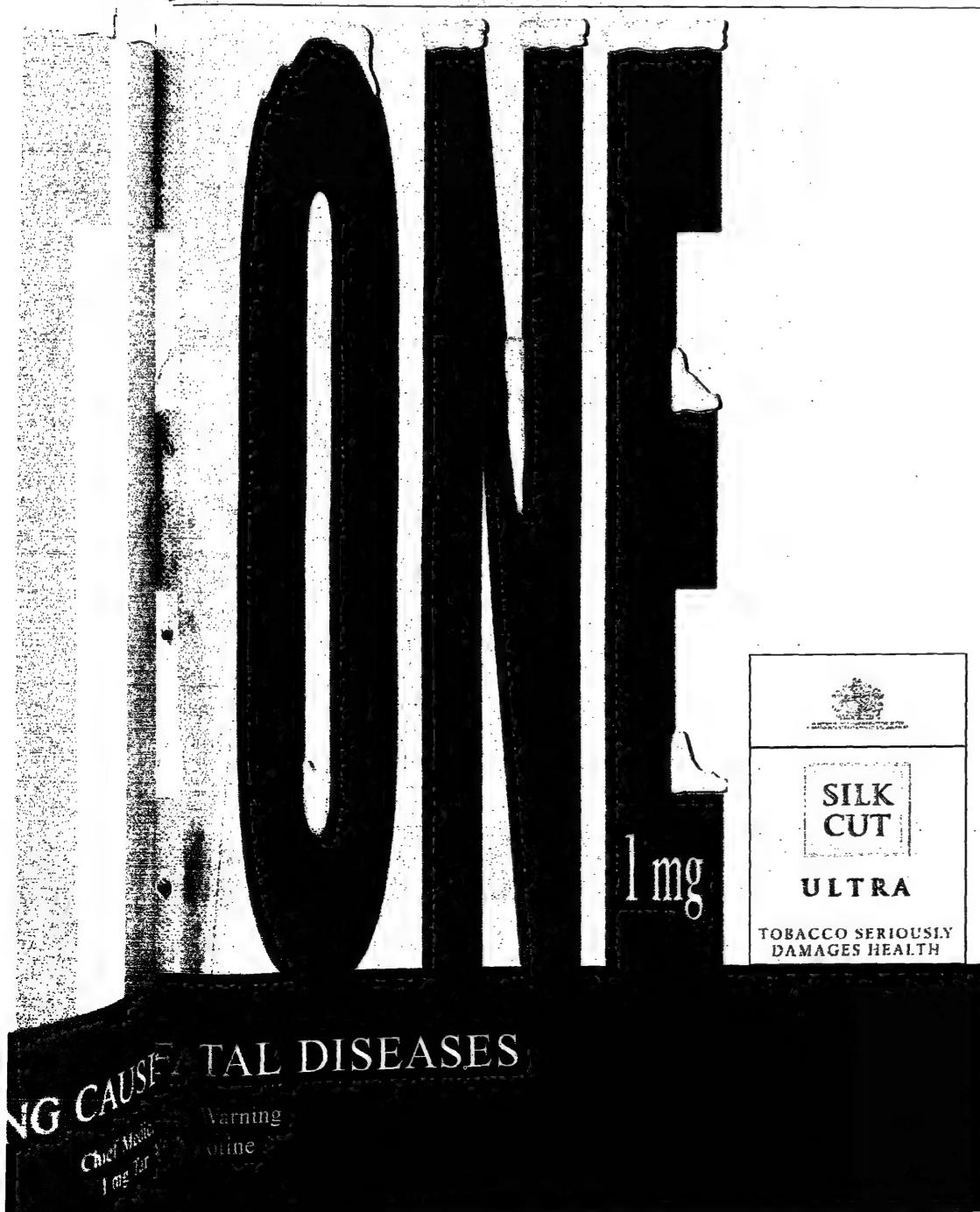
place two nights in a row. He has four rings of protective troops around him, with his presidential bodyguards at the centre. The obsession has led over the past two years to Saddam putting his wife and two protections described.

under house arrest. In a fit of pique, he had the Ferraris and Mercedes of his elder son Uday set on fire.

Saddam is seen as wavering between two factions in the Iraqi power structure as he tries to win relief from UN economic sanctions.

One is confrontational, the other more diplomatic and includes Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister.

☐ Nicosia: Iraq's trade minister, Mehdi Saleh, said yesterday that details of a new plan to distribute aid under its oil for food scheme would be sent to Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, in the next few days and that fraqi oil exports would resume as soon as it was approved (Michael Theodoulou writes).



State in unholy row over godly motto

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A POTENT brew of theology, law and atheism is bubbling provocatively in a small federal courtroom in Ohio as a civil liberties group seeks to abolish the state's official motto — "With God, All

Things Are Possible".

The case, which is being argued before US District Judge James Graham in Columbus, has been brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which is leading a nationwide crusade to

if successful, the lawsuit could revive the campaign to abolish all use of the American national motto, "In God We Trust".

The suit was filed by the union after George Voinovich, the Governor of Ohio, announced plans to engrave the state's motto on a granite tablet at the front of the Ohio Statebouse, on South High Street in Columbus. He had just returned from a trade mission to India, where he observed the words "Government Work Is God's Work" at a ministry building in Delhi. Inspired, he returned to Ohio with a desire to emulate the Indians.

This enraged the local representative of the ACLU, who argued that the motto is unconstitutional because it violates clauses in the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the US Constitution which prohibit the "establishment of a religion by government".

Thomas Kasulis. Professor

of Religious Studies at Ohio State University, argued that the motto had a "universal meaning about the limitations of mankind". He said: "It means we cannot control everything. Some people call it luck. Some people call it fate. Some people call it fate. Some people call it one of

The motto lawsuit is one of four battles being conducted by the ACLU against various American institutions. In other examples, it has sued the city of Stow. in Ohio, for using a municipal seal that depicts the Bible and a crucifix; taken a Florida county school board to court for including Bible studies in the school curriculum; and secured an injunction in Alabama against a state law allowing prayer in public schools.



Yilmaz believes future

US seeks to defuse Turkish quarrel

BY MICHAEL BINYON

TURKEY'S quarrel with the European Union may be the biggest challenge Britain faces as it presides over the opening of talks with new applicants.

Furious at being cold-shouldered by the EU Luxembourg summit, Turkey announced it would break off all talks with the union and threatened to integrate northern Cyprus with the mainland. Ankara has also revived a threat to block the expansion of Nato by refusing to ratify the admission of any new members.

The Turkish parliament called at the weekend for an emergency debate. in which both the Left and Right may endorse calls for a freeze in relations with Europe, a formal withdrawal of Turkey's membership application, a tough new line on Cyprus and stronger ties with Iran and Turkey's Islamic neighbours.

Turkey's Islamic neighbours.

Mesut Yilmaz the Prime
Minister, insisted on Saturday
that the future of his country
lay with the West. But he has
given warnings that the
parliament was likely to take a
harder line, and would link
EU membership with Nato
enlargement.

Mr Yilmaz sought President Clinton's support at the weekend for Turkey's integration in Europe during a visit to America. Washington is alarmed at the sudden worsening of relations between Turkey and Nato's EU members, and does not wish to jeopardise the future of important Nato bases in Turkey.

President Clinton urged Mr Yilmaz not to abandon its quest for EU membership, and America is now looking to Britain to find a way to soothe Turkish anger before talks open with other EU applicants in March.

New technique aborts foetus at eight days

New York: A Texas doctor has pioneered a technique that enables women to have abortions as early as eight days after conception (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Times. Dr Michael Burnhill, vice-president for the federation's medical affairs, said: "For most women, the sooner they know they're pregnant, and the sooner they decide

The method, devised by Dr Jerry Edwards, medical director of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, incorporates a hand-held syringe that draws out the gestational sac. The technique avoids using a vacuum pump, employed in conventional abortions undertaken at a more adanced stage of pregnancy.

vice-president for the federation's medical affairs, said:
"For most women, the sooner they know they're pregnant, and the sooner they decide what to do, the better. With these early abortions, we're talking about a whole gestational sac that's the size of a matchstick head. It's nobody's picture of a little baby sucking its thumb."

sing a vacuum pump, emloyed in conventional aborons undertaken at a more danced stage of pregnancy.

Speaking to The New York

Until now, doctors have balked at performing abortions before six or seven weeks because of the lack of accurate early pregnancy tests.

Nation loses faith in God and turns to police for moral guidance

very year Helmut Kohl has foreign correspondents around to his office for coffee and cakes. This Christmas the Chancelfor was on better form than usual, handing out nuggets of folk wisdom and declaring that the 1998 election campaign would be fought on "values" rather than on

material issues. German voters would be urged to show solidarity and also to accept their civic responsibilities. Not once during this 90-minute ramdiscourse did Herr - chairman of the Christian Democratic Union



- utter the word "Christian". Perhaps the Chancellor really does want, as the Turks

claim, to make the European

is rapidly losing its Christian identity, as is the Chancellor's party. There is talk of the missing "spiritual" element to the European Union yet there is almost no input from the organised Christian churches. In 1970 there were 28.3 million Protestants and 27.2 Roman Catholics in West Germany. By 1989 this had dropped to 25 million and 26 million respectively. After unification, the decline accelerated

Although the East German democratic revolution was hatched in churches, the level

Union into a Christian club.

But the fact is that Germany organised religion was very low. Even after the collapse of communism, eastern Germany has remained a largely secular region. Only four million out of 15.5 million inhabitants are members of an organised religion.

> The result is not exactly a heathen society but certainly one where churches are scrambling to survive. Parish workers are being fired by the hundreds, news are empty. Boom officials moving to Berlin next year, when the capital shifts, have been looking in vain for

children or even schools that offer serious religious education. In Brandenburg, the region around Berlin, there are only so-called LER classes — Lifestyle, Ethics, Reli-gion — which are optional, Richard Schröder, the theolocian, says attendance at these classes is like a visit to the zoo: a once-only experience to satisfy curiosity.

confessional schools for their

The churches have lost almost all influence on daily politics, even in Bavaria where the Christian Social Union occasionally takes issue on having crucifixes in classrooms or on a slightly

liberal abortion rules. Attempts by the churches to launch a debate about the moral dimensions of unemployment were quietly innoted by the political class.

Naturally Germany is not alone in becoming an iticreasingly secular society. But something important is withering away in the country; some call it communism's

A recent opinion poll asked who is most important in transmitting values. The police topped the list with 51 per cent, the political parties came next with 43 per cent,... cent and the churches were something of an afterthought with 37 per cent.

nyone who has had dealings with a Ger-man policeman will find this a frightening statement. The absence of the organised churches from public debate adds to the weakness of the political class and aggravates social problems. It is difficult to disagree with Dr Jürgen Dittberner, political scientist at Potsdam University, who says: "The brutal racism shows what is missing in our society: a

social values." In this situa-tion, says Dr Dittberner, it is disastrous "to shove the churches in a corner. The more thoughtful representatives of the left-learning parties - who have made political capital in the past by hitting out at the organised churches - are thus now coming to the defence of the

"Germans have still not grasped that one of the main roots of their culture is break ing away," says Antje. Vollmer, the Green MP who is the Deputy Speaker of

Croat bombers pledge to drive out Nato troops

Bosnia have vowed to continue intimidating Dutch troops in Nato's Stabilisation Force. whose marine units last week arrested two local war crimes

Over the weekend, a homemade nail bomb was thrown into a Dutch base in Busovaca. slightly injuring two soldiers. Many of the more than 200 troops were forced to take shelter in a bunker, the prelude to what promises to be an uncomfortable Christmas.

Outside the fortified gates of the Busovaca I camp, it did not take long to discover how far relations have sunk with the local population, many of whom fought in the Bosnian Croat army (HVO) and its associated militias. "If you don't leave now. I am going to blow you and your car up." a thug told us in the car park of the Rulet café.

After a tense negotiation, in which he realised he was threatening not Nato troops but journalists, "[vo" dropped his guard to give the Bosnian Croat version of recent history. Even though, over the next few days, three locals will return from The Hague tribunal to Busovaça and surrounding towns because war crimes charges against them were dropped for lack of evidence, he and his friends still take a dim view of international justice. The best undoubtedly the nailbomb

"I have been wounded by 20 pieces of shrapnel during the war and yet they have one small bomb in their base and they are panicking. Whoever cared what happened to me? demanded Ivo. who was relaxed now among the plentiful beer, folk music and girlie calendars of another of his

local haunts, the Kim cafe. Ivo comes from the same mould as thousands of young Bosnians, be they Muslim. Serb or Croat. He has been fighting since 1990, when he



Tom Walker meets a thug in Busovaca who is ready to maim and kill in retaliation for the arrest of war crime suspects

was an 18-year-old recruit in the former Yugoslav National Army, keeping Albanians out of Serbia. As Yugoslavia fell apart, he joined the HVO, cleansed swaths of countryside around Busovaca of Muslims. The latest enemies in his unrelenting cycle of violence are the Dutch

living on his doorstep. "What they did last week was inhuman," he said, regurgitating typical half-truths and lies that spread like wildfire among Bosnia's alienated populations. The latest rumour in Busovaca is that the wife of a Croat arrested by the Dutch was pistol-whipped

Serbs seek to end deadlock

SERBS continued their voting marathon yesterday, attempting for the fourth time in three mouths to decide who should succeed President Milosevic (Tom Walker

ment sources admitted that widespread ballot-stuffing and fraud may be ignored since the international community is as determined as Mr Milosevic's Socialists to stop the rise of Vojislav Seselj, the extreme nationalist Radical Party candidate for the presidency. His opponent in the run-off is the

Socialis Milan Milutinovic. Mr Seselj, an exponent of ethnic cleansing during the war in Bosnia, has been denounced as a fascist by Washington and as a threat to a peaceful Europe.

children. "I would kill them if they came anywhere near my family," declared Ivo.

He was brought up in Jajoe. a Croat stronghold to the east that was overrun by the Serbs during the war. His family home is destroyed, his parents are dead and all his relatives and childhood friends are in Austria, Germany and Croatia. He has lost 40 per cent of his hearing because of a faulty rocket-propelled grenade, and one of his eyes is damaged.

Ivo's life now revolves around his wife and child, and heavy drinking sessions - up to two litres of brandy a day. he assured us.

There were no war crimes committed locally, he said. The infamous massacre up the road at Ahmici, where Muslim women and children were trapped in their homes and burned alive, never happened. its alleged perpetrators, "The Jokers", were a "great bunch of guys".

For the HVO, ivo killed

"maybe one, maybe 50" Mus-lims, Cleansed, Busovaca was now "a great place to live in". where Croats and Muslims are again killing one another, a Bosnian federation police source said we had been wise to leave Ivo swaying drunkenly to his favourite folk tunes. The only detail we had not been told, he said, was that it was Ivo and his gang who carried out the nailbomb attack - hurling it over the perimeter fence before hiding in the nearby bus station -

likely to strike again. "Busovaca is their capital." he said. "They want the Dutch

and that they were more than



Luciano Pavarotti yesterday en route to the Mostar concert on an RAF Chinook

Pavarotti brings musical cure

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI flew Mostar yesterday where he topped a bill of celebrities at the opening of a music centre named in his honour.

The tenor raised £3 million for the centre, which will provide music therapy for the traumatised young survivors of the Bosnian conflict. Others on the bill included Bono, of the U2 rock band, members of the Chieftains, Brian Eno.

Sir Tom Stoppard and Bianca raised money for the centre.

Although suffering from flu which prevented him from performing two concerts in Britain last week - Pavarotti insisted on making the journey.

Mostar suffered heavily in the conflict. Its famous medieval bridge between the Croat and Muslim halves of the city became a symbol of the struggle, as citizens covered it with tyres to try to protect it from bombardment. The bridge did not survive but it is now being rebuilt.

Some of the guests flew from London to Bologna, where they joined Pavarotti, his partner Nicoletta Mantovani and other musicians. A short flight to Split was followed by a bumpy ride in two RAF Chinook helicopters to

WORLD IN BRIEF

Abacha aide held in Nigeria 'coup plot'

Abuja: The Nigerian Army said yesterday that a coup plot had been foiled and a number of senior officers arrested, including Lieutenant-General Oladipo Diya, number two to General Sani Abacha, the military dictator, National television said two other officers, former ministers in General Abacha's Government, Major-General Abdulkarim Adisa and Major-General Tajudeen Olanrewaju, were also detained. They and General Diya are of the Yoruba tribe from southwestern Nigeria, a focus of opposition to General Abacha's rule. The television appealed

for people to remain calm and go about their usual business Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation with more than 104 million people, has been ruled by military regimes for all but ten years since independence from Britain in 1960. General Abacha seized power amid political chaos after the annulment of a presidential election in 1993, but has vowed to restore power to civilians next year. (Reuters)

Air crash search hampered

Jakarta: Strong currents prevented searchers yesterday from recovering the wreckage of the SilkAir Boeing 737-300 that crashed into an estnary off Sumatra, Indonesia, on Friday, All 104 people on the flight from Jakarta to Singapore were presumed dead. The three Britons on board were Ruth Scott, 36, Eugene Clarke, 56, and Kenneth Wilson, 43.

'Mafia' priest returns home

Palermo: A priest who was expelled from Sicily last month after being accused of "complicity with the Mafia" returned yesterday to a hero's welcome when the expulsion order was revoked (Francesco Bongarra writes). Don Mario Frittitta, 59, was charged with "aiding and abetting" Cosa Nostra after he admitted saying Mass for Pietro Aglieri, a Mafia "godfather".

Freedom for corrupt leaders

Seoul: Two former South Korean Presidents, Chun Doo-hwan and Roh Tae-woo, will walk free from jail today. They were pardoned by Kim Young-sam, the outgoing leader. The decision was endorsed by President-elect Kim Dae-Jung. Both men were convicted of amassing E900 million in slush money between them while in office from 1980 to 1993. (AFP)

Worm blinds 80,000 in town

Khartoum: Some 80,000 people in the southwestern Sudanese town of Raga have lost their sight due to an outbreak of river health official said. Leila Abulfutuh, who runs a programme to fight the disease, said 95 per cent of the 400,000 inhabitants were infected. River blindness is caused by parasitic worm transmitted by black flies. (AFP)

Film-maker commits suicide

Tokyo: Juzo Itami, right, the Japa-nese film director, committed suicide because of an imminent media report about his alleged affair with a woman, 26, a spokesman for his company said yesterday. Itami, 64, who won international acclaim for films such as Tampopo, Ososhiki (The Funeral), and Marusa no Onna (A Taxing Woman), died on Saturday after jumping from the roof of an eight-storey building. (Reuters) Obituary, page 23



Botha gets on his bike and steers clear of truth commission

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

P. W. BOTHA, the former South African President, is doing well on his exercise bicycle after hip replacement surgery but is getting no closer to testifying before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission about apartheid human rights abuses while he ran the country.

At the weekend, Frank Kahn, the Attorney-General for the Western

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- WHE TOWER CHASSES .

Cape province, ordered police to investigate criminal charges against Mr Botha. 81, over his failure to obey a subpoena to testify last week.

it was the third occasion that Mr Botha, head of state from 1984 to 1989 and Prime Minister for six years before that, had spurned the "circus" headed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The previous time, Mr Botha cried off because of his surgery. Mr Botha, quoted yesterday by the Afrikaans-language newspaper Rap-

port at his home in The Wilderness, a Western Cape coastal village, said: "I respect the laws of South Africa and I don't think of myself as above the law. That is the correct attitude."

His statement implies that he is prepared to appear before a court to explain why he refuses to testify before a commission that he claims wants to humiliate him.

Mr Kalm has given Mr Botha's lawyers until Friday week to provide additional information before any

decision to prosecute. Under the commission's mandate. Mr Botha could face a fine of 20,000 rands labout £2.400) or up to two years' iail.

Meanwhile, thousands of delegates at the African National Congress conference in Maleking, North West Province, have dispersed after cutting Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's political ambitions down to

in elections for the ruling party's 66-member national executive she at the party's last conference three years ago. The result came after humiliation in Mrs Mandela's attempt to become the ANC's deputy

In a final weekend vote delegates gave a resounding endorsement to the party's growth, employment and redistribution strategy based broadly on free-market economic policy.

Leading article, page 21

Woman studio head dies

Los Angeles: Dawn Steel, 51, the first woman to become president of a Hollywood studio, Columbia Pictures, has died at a Beverly Hills hospital after a two-year battle with brain cancer (Giles Whittell writes). During six years at the top of her profession, Ms Steel supervised production of such hits as The Accused. Fatal Attraction and When Harry Met Sally.

Avian flu claims third death

Hong Kong: A girl. 13, has become the third victim to die here of avian flu (Jonathan Mirsky writes). There have now been eight confirmed and two suspected cases. Three young cousins who have the virus live with a grandmother whose neighbours claim she brought home dead chickens from a rubbish tip.

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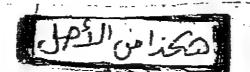
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Cream silk rosebud dress with frills, £1,170; cream linen frilled cardigan, £462

ow that the Benidorm set has discovered cruises, the term "cruise wear" has lost some of its cachet. The window displays in Knights-bridge, complete with Louis Vuitton trunks, "Were much more enticing five years ago, when the weeks' meandering around the Caribbean was part of the social calendar, not an alternative to a fortnight in Lanzarote.

But if Wealthy women are now more likely to be found at the K Club than on the Canberra. they are still buying cruise wear. The concept cwas pioneered in America, where designers realised that women were not content buying
their ciothes in two batches — spring and
maitumin. Mid-season collections are catching on
there, but American names still predominate.

Now John Galliano, the British designer who already produces six collections a year (two ready-to-wear and two couture collections for Dior, plus his own label) has come up with a "John Galliano" mid-season line. All the elements of his look are there — the Spanishinfluenced lace-work, a reminder of Galliano's Gibraltarian purentage, the bolero cardigans, suits cut to emphasise hourglass figures, draped backs and fronts, vertiginous belle 'epoque necklines, oriental jacquards, tiny slip dresses . . . In some ways, it is a sort of "greatest hits". The little flowered frock is very like the one worn by Kate Moss in last summer's gypsy Syllection. The pink shawl dress is a synthesis of Galliano's exquisite chinoiserie without the

complexity of some of his show pieces. But it does differ from the main collections, irst, Galliano has introduced stretch into the thirs, which improves the fit and means that the ckets can really, be bought off-the-peg, with no

Cruise wear may have lost some of its cachet, but Style **Editor Grace Bradberry** finds that the mid-season collection is eatching on

need for alterations to achieve that ultra-tight Galliano look. Secondly, there are plenty of knitted fabrics, so there are evening dresses for less than £700. (Some may find this a curious

definition of economy, but these pieces are Fashion History in the Making.)

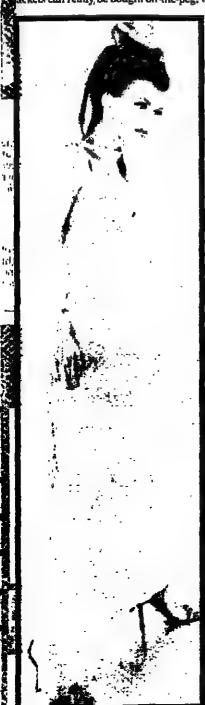
But Galliano is not for the pragmatic. His clothes are about fantasy, romanticism and sumptuous fabrics. They are certainly not for penny-pinchers - nor pound-pinchers for that matter. Each of the main seasonal collections has a "story" behind it - that of a Russian emigre, perhaps, or B-movie actress. The midseason collection has no narrative, but was inspired by a book published last year: Photographs from Storyville, the Redlight District of New Orleans is a moving, evocative volume of pictures by an American photographer, Ernest J. Bellocq. His glass negative plates, taken in 1912, were rediscovered in the 1970s, and although the subjects are all

prostitutes, Belloco's lens transformed them into romantic, mysterious creatures.

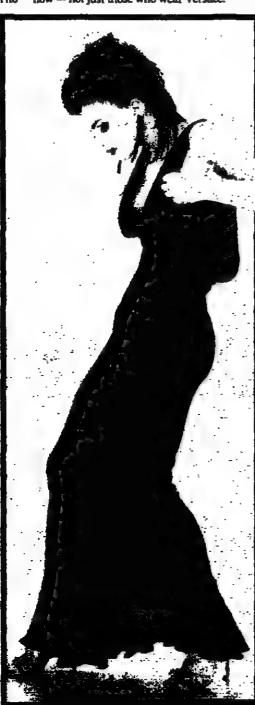
If dressing like a whore does not appeal, then it is worth bearing in mind that the introduction of sex into fashion may be the only significant style innovation of the past 20 years. By turn of the century standards, we all dress like tarts now - not just those who wear Versace.



Burgundy silk lace dress, £2,190; burgundy flower comb, £229, by Philip Treacy, 69 Elizabeth Street, SWI, 0171-259 9605



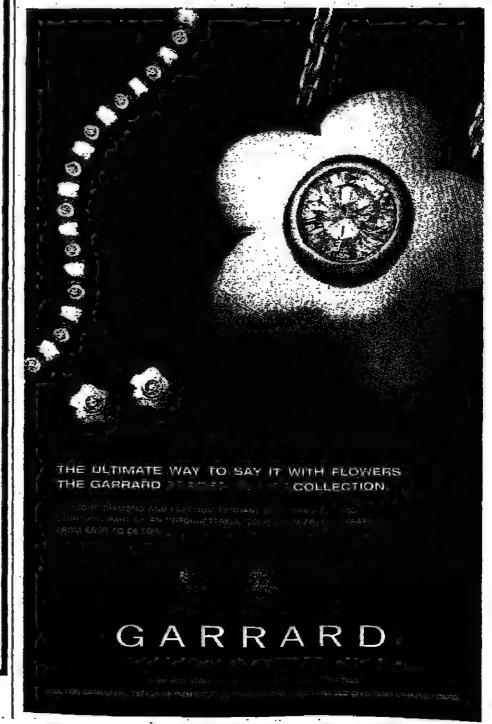
Jacquard shawl dress, El.040; feather hairpin, E149, from Philip Treacy.
Suede stilettos by Manolo Blahnik

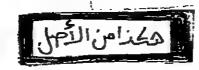


Black kmitted draped-neck ruffle dress, £650; purple and green diamante earrings, £82, from Erickson Beamon, 38 Elizabeth Street, SWI, 0171-259 0202



Taupe one-button silk and linen jacket. £950. with matching stretch slit skirt for a sharper fit. £560, plus broderie anglaise underskirt





In search of true north - and the man behind Halley's comet

Dr Toby Clark aims to retrace Halley's quest to chart compass variations. Anjana Ahuja reports

'I am

"You are to make the best of your way to the Southward of the Equator, and there to observe on the East Coast of South America and the West Coast of Africa, the variations of the Compasse, with all the accuracy you can..." Royal orders to Sir Edmund Halley, secretary of the Royal Society

ir Edmund Halley (1656-1742) is most noted for the comet that bears his name. Yet one of his greatest accomplishments, in the eyes of the astronomer's contemporaries, was his attempt to chart the "variation of the compass", now known as declination.

This is the angle north and true geographical north. Without it, sailors prepared to could not correct their compasses. It give up my was therefore impossible to deduce life for eight longitude precisely and navigate the months to oceans.

So, in 1698, in the warsloop Paramore, Halley.

one of only two men in the land conduct scientific research, set sail for Madeira and the Cape Verde Islands, with the grand plan of charting declination for important ports in the North and South Atlantic. The trip was quickly aborted, because of crew insubordination, but Halley returned to the seas a second time.

The voyage took his crew, which included a one-armed boatswain famed for his good humour, to the Canaries, Rio. de Janeiro, down past South Georgia (where the men

again via St Helena, thence to the Caribbean and Newfoundland, and back to England. From these travels Halley published, in 1701, A New and Correct CHART shewing the VARIATIONS of the Compasse in the WESTERN AND SOUTHERN OCEANS as observed in ye YEAR 1700 by his MATTES Command. More sophisticated successors to this primitive cartographic effort proved indispensable to seamen for more than a century. before a slow change in the terrestrial magnetic field rendered them inaccurate. if all goes well, Halley's

brated once again. researcher at the British Geological Survey (BGS) in Edinburgh and a keen sailor, plans the 300th anniversary of Halley's trip by retracing

the route of the

Paramore, Sir Viv-

do this' ian Fuchs, the man who led the first cross-Antarctica expedition, has lent his name to Dr Clark's effort to raise the estimated £70,000 needed.

Dr Clark became fascinated by Halley during a two-year posting to Halley Station in Antarctica, when he read biographies of the great scientist. "Hailey led a remarkable life." Dr Clark says. "He was not only a respected scientist but also led expeditions. He was not just an astronomer but also did research in geophysics."

During his position as Astronomer Royal he mapped



Dr Toby Clark: "Halley led a remarkable life. He was not only a respected scientist but he also led expeditions. He was not just an astronomer but also did research in geophysics"

the positions of the stars, but Halley, the son of a soapboiler from Shoreditch, also found time to develop a diving bell and advise Sir Isaac Newton during his writing of the Principia Mathematica. the foundation of classical physics. Recreating the voyage, Dr Clark says, will afford Halley the recognition he

deserves. The present expedition, which Dr Clark has entitled "In the Wake of the Paramore", will also have scientific merit. Dr Clark and his crew intend to make the measurements that Halley made, but with far more precise instruments. Also, measurements need to be up-dated because the terrestrial magnetic field is slowly, but constantly, changing (the magnetic North and South Poles have reversed several times during the Earth's history.) The data should help to refine the existing mathematical model of Earth's magnetic field, called the international geomagnetic reference field.

"It is common to measure the size but not the direction of the magnetic field," Dr Clark says. "That's because you need to know true north to measure the direction. On our expedition, we can use global positioning satellites to determine that." The BGS and the United States Naval Oceanographic Office have offered to supply instruments.

By chance, a Danish satellite to be launched in May next vear will take similar magnetic measurements over the globe. Dr Clark hopes that his measurements will plug the gaps in coverage over the oceans, and he points out that it is useful to have groundbased measurements to compare to satellite ones.

It is easy to forget just how remarkable Halley's Atlantic adventures really were. It was the first dedicated scientific expedition on the seas, and Halley became the first civilian to be appointed a naval captain to pursue what many regarded as an obsession with

The charts that he produced are also celebrated by carrographers — they are said to be the first maps that use lines to no reason.
delineate physical quantities. fascinating
The contours became known a purpose.

briefly as "halleyan lines". Dr Clark possesses the optimism and credentials to make such a voyage a success. As well as apending two years in Antarctica and working in the geomagnetic group at the BGS, he has sailed the 8,000 miles from Rio de Janeiro to England. He envisages that the nine-month journey, starting in Greenwich next October, will be completed in four legs, with

four sets of crew. Does he share Halley's obsessive trait? "I am prepared to give up my life for eight months to do this, so I suppose some people might think I am obsessed. But I wouldn't want to sail across the Atlantic for no reason. Halley, and his fascinating life, have given me

their lives, the predator fish have the same black patches

behind the gills and at the root of the tail as the females

of the prey species, as well as the same herringbone pat-tern in the rear of the body,

and the same stripes on the

Dr Brosset found that the

match was close enough to fool the male Rivulus into making sexual advances. If they were big enough com-pared with the predator, they

got away with it, if they were the same size or smaller, they

were exten. Females were

also attacked by Erythrinus.

but here the sexual come on

was ineffective. The preda-tors simply chased the fe-

male across the tank trying

In practice, loss of the

males may not be quite as damaging to the Rivulus as it

might appear. They live in

harems, with two or three

females and a highly aggres-

sive male, and the reduction

in the number of males may

actually help to keep popula-tions stable and healthy.

to catch them by the tail.

Magnetism and muscles

New study shows that magnets may hold the key to pain relief

t sounds like utter quackery - using magnets to relieve pain. However, scientists in America have published what they believe is tentative evidence to support the centuries-old claim that magnetism harbours medicinal properties.

Dr Carlos Valbonna, of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, decided to test the remedy among former polio patients, who often suffer chronic muscle and joint pain. After gaining approval from a human experimentation committee, he enlisted 50 people to take part in a study. He then asked a local magnet manufacturer to make both active and dummy magnets that patients could not tell apart. The real magnets, which were provided free, were only

slightly stronger than the re-frigerator kind.

Twenty-nine patients were given real magnets and the devices. Before treatment, they were all asked to rate their pain on a scale from one to ten. They were then asked to apply the magnets to painful areas for 45 minutes. The patients were monitored to ensure that they did not try to find out whether their magnet was real As reported last month in

the Archives of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, the 29 who were treated with a real magnet saw their pain drop from an average of 9.6 to 4.4. It was a startling result compared with the remaining patients, who saw their average pain score drop from 9.5 to 8.4. Some of the subjects said that the magnet banished pain from parts of the body quite far from where the magnet was applied.

The paper has astonished many medical experts, who would like to see the study repeated. After all, the test was conducted only once. However, Professor William Jarvis, therapy and president of the National Council Against Health Fraud in America, is in favour of further investigation.

Dr Ann Gill Taylor, from the University of Virginia, has been watching the results with interest. Last month she began recruiting 105 volunteers for a similar study. She is focusing on whether magnetic pads used during sleep can alleviate the discomfort caused by fibromyalgia, a distressing muscle condition whose cause is unknown. Dr Taylor is also planning to test whether magnets can reduce the pain reported in phantom limbs by amputees. Her unusual research is being funded by the National Institute of Health. which has set up an office of alternative medicine.

eanwhile, Dr Val-bonna, who admits to having used magnets to relieve knee pain. wants to carry out further studies to answer the many questions that his study has raised. For example, does magnetic strength matter? How long does the pain relief last? Does it wear off? Are there other medical conditions for which magnets might prove effective?

The Food and Drug Administration will also be watching with interest - it has warned doctors to treat health claims for magnets with extreme

ANJANA AHUJA



a prominent critic of magnet

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How fish perfect the art of deception to snare their prey

Love at

first bite

IMITATION may be the sincerest form of flattery, but the sentiment is unlikely to appeal to males of a fish called Rivulus. They are the victims of a particularly cruel form of imitation, says the French ecologist Dr André Brosset, who has studied them at St Elie Biological Station in French Guiana.

A predator species called Erythrinus pretends to be a female Rivulus, attracting a hapless Rivulus male to perform a sexual display in front of it. No sooner has the foreplay begun than Erythrinus shows itself in its true colours, catching its victim by the tail and swallowing it. The phenomenon, reported by Dr Brosset in a recent issue of Ethology, is a particularly neat form of aggressive mimicry, a behaviour widely found throughout nature. The closest parallel is the cleaner fish of the Indo-Pacific, so called because it removes parasites from the skin of other fish. The sabretoothed blenny takes advan-tage of this practice by

Dangers of

space debris

according to a report pub-

lished last week by the US

National Research Council.

Simply floating about in

space is more perilous because of the growing risk of being hit by debris.

Forty years of space explo-

ration has left millions of

pieces of junk - satellites,

nuts and bolts, even tiny

THE launch of

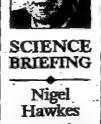
a manned

spacecraft is no

onger the most

dangerous part of the mission.

pretending to be a cleaner fish, even engaging in the same kind of dance. As soon as another fish lines up to be cleaned, the blenny bites off a piece of its fin



covery when carrying out experiments in an aquarium at the research station. A dozen Rivulus algilae of different sizes were being kept in a tank when it

and eats it.

Dr Brosset

flakes of paint — in orbit around Earth. Add to that

the natural hazards of mete-

oroids and dust, and the

was designed in the 1970s,

this was not taken into

consideration. A fragment

half a centimetre across trav-

elling at a speed of 17,000mph could make a

hole the size of a fist in the

shuttle's crew compartment

or wing. Radar can detect higger chunks, but 95 per

cent of the material is too

The NRC recommends

better surveillance, altered

flight rules, and extra shield-

small to spot.

When the space shuttle

risks become significant.

made his dis-

ing large by eat-ing all the others. It was, of course, Erythrinus io disguise. Experiments showed how the worked. Rivulus

are much smaller fish, growing. to about only two inches as adults, while Erythrinus reach at least six

> French Guiana. The deception therefore occurs when the Erythrinus are young,

inches

became plain that one, provi-sionally identified as a fe-adult Rivulus. At this stage in Barking up the



PEOPLE often convince themselves that their pets can talk. but scientists are · usually more sceptical. An exception

Professor Slobodchikoff, of Northern Arizona University, who has spent the past ten years trying to learn the language of prairie dogs. He sits in a tower in the pine forests outside Hagstaff and records their calls, the Boston Globe ing on parts of the shuttle. reported recently.

Careful analysis of the sounds shows, he says, that there are different alarm calls for different threats. When a hunter approached the colony, the response was different from that elicited by an unarmed man. Distinctive calls were also recorded

when the colony was threat-

ened by hawks, coyotes or domestic dogs. He believes that prairie dogs have a vocabulary running into more than 100 words, but finds it hard to convince other scientists. "I'd say 25 per cent think my findings are interesting," he says. The others are either agnostic or outright disbe-

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Self-help: does anybody need it?

Giles Whittell discovers the secrets of writing self-help books, while Jane Shilling analyses their advice and concludes it is not worth having

iane Reverend was mere editor at Random House in New York when she first saw a manuscript by an unknown pop psychologist,

"I took one look at the title and knew it would be a number one bestseller," she said, chuckling, last week, and she was right. Men Are From Mars. Women Are From Venus has sold 6.4 million hardback copies so far. The desperately understanding Dr Gray is now a multimillionaire and Diane Reverend has

her own imprint. Dr Gray's slim volume on how to bridge communication gaps between the sexes is the unofficial mascot of a huge and expanding self-help industry that may, as its insiders claim, answer some of Americans' myriad yearnings for betterment. It also feeds off those yearnings, creates hundreds more and - not inciden-

the entire world of New York publish-Prose More, style is Weigh Less. How To Make Anyone the last Fall In Love With You. 14,000 Things thing on To Be Happy About. As Britain anybody's is learning, the genre can fill entire

mind

ers - but there are worse. For every self-help title published. thousands are rejected as too derivative or specialised. This is no small mercy, given that Sinus Survival and Six In The Bed (Parents, In-laws and their Impact On Your Marriage) both made it into print.

walls with tomes as

quackish and his-

trionic as their cov-

Unsolicited manuscripts do get read, but "blowhards don't fool anyone", as one seasoned self-help professional put 'it. Nor does literary talent help. As a new breed of heavyweight editor-cum-agent goes looking for the next lightweight blockbuster, prose style is the last. thing on anybody's mind.

Marketability is everything. "How promotable is the author? What's the 'hook? Is it end rattles off the key questions, then admits: someone comes to me with a really cutchy title, that's two thirds of the battle won. You know you can reach people."

Another of her star authors is Laura Schlesinger, a purveyor of no-nonsense bullet points on relationships and family via a syndicated rudio

"I heard her show early on

and I knew at once there was no way it wasn't going national," Ms Reverend says. Ms record as a writer but she did have a title to zap you where it hurts: Ten Studid Things Women Do To Mess Up Their

Crucially, she also had the potential for a built-in advertising blitz over the airwaves, so Diane Reverend signed her. The book has sold more than two million copies (and has inevitably spawned a companion volume for men).

Definitions of the self-help enre broaden as each new fad finds a market. Under its vast umbrella come certain staples too lucrative to ignore money, diet, fitness, beauty but also highly specific niches such as ageing, arthritis and marrying the right guy. As baby-boomers start coping with their parents' deaths, and their own, dying is another growth, area.

The reigning queen of self-help is a hyperactive Dailas agent who sticks to the three broad categories of finance, relationships and health But more than anything she sticks to sales potential. "Forget the book-store," says Jan Miller, who repre-

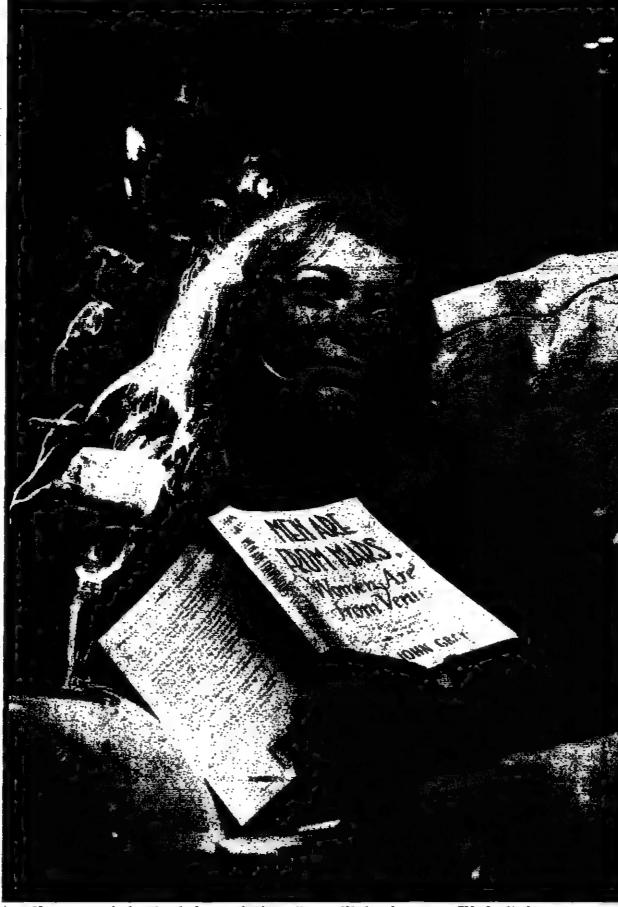
sents two of President Bill Clinton's favourite motivators. "It's all about distribution now." To make an impact in the information blizzard that is now part of American life, Ms Miller's authors must be pro-

infomercials to greetings cards. Book tours are for mere It all started in 1979, when she lured Arnold Schwarzenegger out of a Dallas bookshop, where he had signed 150 copies of his latest fitness book. She took him to a sports shop, where she made him sign cópies for a queue of 2,900 people. Eighteen years on she has shepherded 150 titles into print, 20 of which

motable on everything from

Her current authors include Anthony Robbins (Unlimited Power, two million copies) and Stephen Covey (The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People: 280 weeks on the bestseller list). Both were summoned to nurse Clinton's wounds at Camp David after his 1994 mid-term election

rout. must have media nous and be



ambitious, with a "platform" - their own show, a seminar series, a pet issue. A stable of ghostwriters will handle the text if necessary. She has 40 titles in the pipeline for next year, and Manhattan publishers are scrambling for her new books and authors.

One such author will be Jesse Brown, a successful Texan stockbroker who has never

written a book in his life but happens to be black. "There was never a black face interviewed on television when the markets dived last month," Jan Miller observes. She saw a niche, and has signed Brown up for television, video and speaking deals worth "in the

low six figures". Another up-and-comer, Ms Miller swears, is Elia Patter-

son, a teacher who self-published a sex education book for girls and sold 70,000 copies out of her car boot. Thanks to Ms Miller, Ms Patterson now has a seven-figure deal for lectures, television and radio appearances. Oh, and that

Being a self-help author is not for the faint-hearted. It is for people like Jake Steinfeld, a television fitness guru who made Harry Evans, the for-mer head of Random House. do ten press-ups in front of his entire sales force to help to

promote a Steinfeld book. The book was not about fitness, the author explained, but "the ability to get the president of a company down on the floor doing press-ups". The sales people loved it.

t Augustine, the pa-tron saint of self-help, knew the syndrome well. "Oh God," he prayed. "Give me chastity hat not yet."

But now it is that time of year when bad old habits are replaced with shiny new aspifatter bank balance, a nice new boyfriend (or any boyfriend at all) and, of course, complete spiritual calm in all

Force your way into any bookshop during the few remaining shopping days be-fore Christmas, past the shelves full of gastro-porn (fricasse of snails with a fennel garnish), the survival manuals (fricassee of worm diet books ffricassee of fennel. no garnish) and eventually you will stumble on a throng (or encounter group, as you will shortly be learning to call

it) of youngish and drooping, or Chanel-suited with an invisible lapel badge reading "I Am Nearly 35 And I Still Haven't Had A Baby" and the occasional sheepistr bloke. What they are all

loing is buying for

their best friends the book that will change their lives. Their best friends. while, are on the other side of town buying the same book for them. In 1998, they will thus be able to form a support group. This will be referred to their busbands/boyfriends/flatmates as "Ruth's night for Getting Silly with Angela", but Ruth and Angela will, with their newly acquired self-knowledge, be empowered to deal in a mature, morous manner with this childish belittling of their

personal goals.
Self-beip books have various things in common. They all claim, like alchemists of old, to be able to turn leaden unhappiness into the gold of personal fulfilment. They are all by "bestselling" authors and those authors are mostly American, which can mean a shock for the inhibited British psyche. Within the genre there are three main categories: how to snag a mate: what to do with him once you have got him; and Advanced Spirit

Prominent among the First Waterstone's are Sharyn Wolf's Guerrilla Dating Tactics (Thorsons, £6.99), "the definitive guide for singles". and Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider's *The Rules 2* (Thorsons, £6.99), "How To Make Mr Right Desperate For More". Sharyn and Ellen and Sherrie all have "wonderful husbands", and thus presumably know what they are on about. Any attempt to

vice contained in their books. however, is likely to lead to entry into an enclosed order.

The Rules 2 is, like The

Rules, all about discovering your Inner Prom Queen. Don't date him, don't pay for dinner and if he doesn't hurry

up and propose -- Next!

Guerrilla Dating, on the other hand, recommends adopting a persona like that of Goldie Hawn crossed with the bloke in The Fast Show wearing the Chris Evans wig and indefensible braces. Be wacky! Be original! Drop a dahlia in his drinking water and once you've lured him into your flat, surprise him with a wicker clothes basket

full of assorted condoms. Faced with this sort of thing it is perhaps not sur-prising that "how to improve your relationship" manuals are written mainly by men. Dr John Gray's Men Are From Mars, Women Are

From

(Thorsons. £8.99),

s stuffed with case

histories, charts and aphorisms

("never go into a

man's cave, or you

Be wacky! Drop a dahlia into his

will be burned by a dragon"). But its conclusion is, broadly, hold your drinking tongue, and if, by chance, he should water! remember to put the seat down, be grateful. Or else. Susan Jefters and Daniel Goleman square up to the big question:

what is nice for? Their approach is quasi-scholarly. Jefiers, in End the Struggle and Dance with Love (Coronet, £5.99), relies on Buddha, Nikos Kazantzakis, Pooh and Piglet; while Goleman (Bloomsbury, £7.99) distances his Emotional Intelligence from what he fastidiously refers to as "a welter of selfhelp books" with the help of Aristotle, William Styron and Ulf Dimberg of the University of Uppsala. In either case, il you were not dysfunctional when you began reading, you will be by the time you stop.

So, you may think, away with all this transatlantic selfobsession. What about something really uplifting? Patience Strong may be amouldering in her grave but her spirit lives on in her namesake, Sir Roy, whose meditation on happiness, de-livered as the 19th Thomas Baggs Memorial Lecture at the University of Birmingham last year, has fortunately been

Long Barn books (£7.99). Happiness for Sir Roy lies in the simplest things: "English farmhouse goodies, stored in neat rows in the cupboard": shy approaches from admiring members of the public, cats with funny names (Lady Torte de Shell). Harkt is that Julie Andrews I hear carolling in the distance?

JANE SHILLING

Kathleen Simons enters a world of conspiracy and intrigue when she goes in search of Laa-Laa and Po

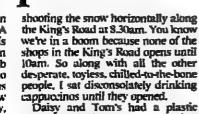
Why my Teletubbie cost me a million pounds

ou have to keep things in proportion at Christmas. A new frock for the office party is about 212 times more important than food. Getting the forgotten 14lb organic turkey out of a butcher who closes early on Christmas Eve versus a 20 per cent discount on raw materials — what would you say, about four times? And two Teletubbies for a two-year-old grandniece versus the success of a multimillion-pound sale? Off the scale.

I started the Teletubbies hunt in November, I was told that if I were prepared to queue from 6am on a Saturday outside Toys R Us there would be a chance.

I have not seen a Saturday in the UK for eight weeks because I am always off seeking new markets for my widgets. And I could not find anyone daft enough to queue for me at any price. A friend of a friend knows someone at Harrods who tells people they are "coming in" and that he will put one by, but I have not yet heard of one "going out".

So when I set out last Wednesday to look for flar, late-postable presents for godchildren. I really had given up on the Teletubbies. A harsh wind was



Teletubbie bathmat. In a cringing voice, I whispered: "Um, I don't suppose you have any of the, um, real thing, do you?" I have now said this to more people in more shops around the world than I have air miles. You get a shrug at best. Usually a laugh; that is to say,

one shop assistant laughing to another at me. This assistant didn't laugh though. She said: "Well, not at the moment." At the moment? I shrilled far too loudly. Does that mean that there could be a moment when you might have some? She pulled me behind the Picture Books for Older Children.

looking over her shoulder.
"Maybe" When?

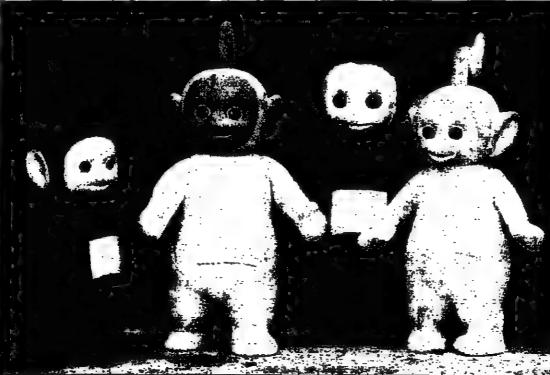
"Today." When, today? "Any time now, actually."

At that point my mobile rang. The sales director said a deal was falling through. Big money was at stake. What should he do?

Don't bother me. I'm in negotiations for a" "Ssssh." The assistant winced. "Don't say it out loud."

... for a thing. An important thing." I pressed the off button. We were now co-conspirators, the assistant and I. The rest of the shoppers - at that time not many must not know, she said. There would he nandemonium. One woman was

A constant of first series of



Absurd objects of desire: tell the sales assistants you want to buy a Teletubbie and watch them laugh

prosecuted last week for lighting with another when she pinched Tinky-Winky out of her trolley. We were talking war.

Other young sales assistants also knew a shipment had come in and were nodding and winking at each other. "Follow me," I heard a manager say to a group of them as she headed for the stock room. Bring your pricer. We are going to save the world. Yes, she really said that.

I pretended to shop for half an hour, then I sidled up to the till. Out of the corner of my mouth I asked if. you know, they had arrived? How did know? asked the cashier. First Assistant admitted that she had told me. Then, because I was part of the inner circle, they told me they had yet to unpack and price them, which would take another half hour. More

nodding and winking. I went for another cappuccino. A

Danish. Another cappuccino. A croissant. I always eat when I'm nervous. First Assistant passed, nodded and inked. Not yet, she mouthed. But the rumour factory was at work. One or two assistants were walking about like FBI men, ready to run, control

The mobile rang again. Why wasn't I dealing with the crisis. the office wanted to know. But I am dealing with a crisis. Go away. Finally I approached First Assistant. "I have to go," I said. "Any chance of one from the back, you

stampede, fetch the police.

know, in a plain brown wrapper? She took pity on me. Turned to a more junior person. "This woman," she said. Thas been waiting an hour and a half for them. Put them in a bag - in the back - and bring them out under cover.

He went. He came back. There was

a sudden, awful realisation that they would have to go through the electronic till. A description of the item. plus the price, came flickering up. An intake of breath. Grabbing a brochure from the counter. I slapped it against the revealing till to hide the Tword. They exhaled.

Finally it was in the bag. Literally. Back out into the snow, warm and smiling. Into the car before the T-T raiders, who no doubt had been iomging nonchalantly around the toyshop, could smell their prey. The ear phone rang. The deal was

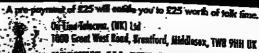
dead. We'd lost. Loss? Who had loss? This was the best day of my life. I had won. As I said: you have to get things in roportion at this time of the year. Laa-Laa and Po are a thousand times more important than selling several million pounds worth of widgets to

an Arab state.

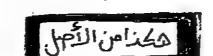
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n 1997 I saw the perfect Fool. It has been a long wait. Rather like Polonius, the Fool seemed to be one of Shakespeare's undoables. Then Michael Bryant took him on in the Richard Eyre National Theatre production and at last I believe I saw the Fool as he was meant to be.

Bryant's performance was praised but not hugely celebrated because of the magnificence of lan Holm's Lear. In Holm we had a double Lear, we had a truly shaking performance, and we had it from a man who was until recently racked with stage fright. The more you go to the theatre and the better you know the actors the harder it is for them to disguise themselves. Holm in Lear superseded this and as the confused. naked, ranning, wrong and wronged Lear he commanded almost all our attention.

And so Bryant seemed at the time to be the moon that paled before the sun. But time has leavened his performance in my

Playing the fool for the lords of misrule

often that we take it for granted. his own politic truth. He is a nat is one of the hardest big roles in Shakespeare and it has the mistortune to be up against arguably the greatest role of all. But Bryant

The Fool is counsellor on wit, he is knockabout comic and wise man, he is rude, he is warm, he is the alter-ego, the goad, the con-science and sad, sad, lost in the world reality which his master and friend the king abandons a few minutes into the play. But how on

earth do you play him? Somehow Bryant achieved him completely. He made the jokes work. He was Jack the Lad with his own stand-up, knocking out allcomers at the court's Comedy Store. He was wise, and most of all he was fearless with the unloosed monster monarch, risking whipping, distraught with the pain of

but as the Fool he was definitive. It and a scold throughout but humour gives his complaints mustard and Bryant, full of theatrical cunning, digs and digs at his lost

> It was one of the most memorable performances of this or any year. Oddly, it is rather typical of the quietly brilliant career of Michael Bryant that such a feat should have occurred as it were almost in the shadow of another memorable performance. For years he has been consummate without that self-regard which is sometimes quickening but more often of passing interest.

Richard Eyre is making a film of King Lear and I look forward to it ment outside the theatre, quickly changed, job done, Fool cast off. But he had left me with a for Ian Holm of course - for the fury of the man. But equally for Bryant whom I saw, minutes after fulfilment of one of Shakespeare's the play had ended, striding with

A past, when things were worse or better, the custom past, when things were was to employ misrule. Masters, we are both reliably and unreliably informed, both pagan and Christian, were obliged to act as servants around the witching time of midwinter. Choristers elected a boy as a hishop. Status was

Did it really happen like that? Surely, one imagines, sycophantic servants will be rather lenient with masters whose boot could be back in their kidneys at the end of this extravagance. And surely the mas-ters would form a masonry to go along with this custom for their own reasons - mainly the placating of old gods. But even if it was more mocked than marked, it was, I think, an idea of profound significance. Were it to be reinstated now it might well refresh the

t this time of year, in times social and psychological health of past, when things were the nation. For I think it comes out of a deep understanding of the tensions in society — resulting from immovable hierarchies which to expose for a time can do nothing but good. We all know that when a Caesar

in Rome had his triumph through the city, he was accompanied by a slave who reacted to the cheers of the crowd by whispering words of caution — that life was short, that glory vanished, that fame was a chimera. Who does that to our leaders now? Not only our political leaders but - perhaps more importantly - our business and corporate leaders. We have the newspapers of course, and they are vital here, but it is very easy for the top 0.1 per cent in our society to insulate themselves. Were the whole business to be turned upside down we might slough off the

grudges that slow us down. So let's restore misrule. Let secretaries take care of

offices (often this would be merely public confirmation of what they do already). Let bosses fetch and carry, make tea, get some Christmas cards on the way in from the train. Let the weak experience strength and the strong weakness. It would, I suggest, prove a world more capable of cohesion than is possible in the stratified organisation of today. Our ancestors who practised misrule in midwinter knew that the most vital thing of all was to survive. What this did was help them to survive.

For centuries now we have swanned along with only war to bring real coherence. Yet if old wars are gone, then how else are we to attain what has often been a cathartic feeling of knowing each other and being part of each other? Nothing binds a society together as much as realising what we all have in common. War does that. And next to war, perhaps, misrule, making society topsy-turvy.

The English rose blooms in time for uncle Oscar

The packaging may be the same, but a new Helena Bonham Carter inhabits her role in The Wings of the Dove. Matt Wolf reports

6 I might

have just

got it

slightly

right, I

more than a decorative pretty face who looked good in Edwardian garb; a natural beauty who shone on camera without reveal-ing much of a soul. Indeed, in the eyes of many, her gifts had less to do with acting than with projecting a fresh-faced sheen. She would never aspire to the theatrical heights of, say. Dame Judi Dench.

Still, it is the way of performers to surprise — after all, Emma Thompson had only fourth billing on the credits when she won her Best Actress Academy Award for Howards End — and there can be few surprises greater than Bonham Carter's emergence over the

past few years as a genuine talent. Now the 31emerged as this year's front-runner for the Oscar for her performance as Kate Croy in Iain Softley's new film of The Wings of the Dove in what looks to be a largely English race likely to include, you guessed it, Dame Judi

guess 🤊 "Helena will win the prize," a well-placed film executive said last week, and Bonham Carter is generating the early head of steam so necessary for keeping one's name in the minds of the nominators and the voters. She has already been named best actress by film critics' organisations in Los Angeles and Boston, as well as by the National Board of Review. (The influential New York Film Critics group gave their top prize to yet another Briton: Julie Christie, for the Alan Rudolph film Afterglow.) On Thursday, Bonham Carter was nominated for a Golden Globe, where she goes up against Dench (for Mrs Brown) and Titanic's leading lady Kate Winslet, as well as two Americans: Jodie Foster (Contact) and

Jessica Lange (A Thousand Acres).
"I find it a bit freaky." Bonham
Carter says. "It's wonderful to get a pat on the back, to have that exposure and demand." As regards the Oscars. where she has already been on the giving end of an award, she says: "I won't say the big O word, although of course I just have. I'm thinking, Hold your horses, babe, just try to keep your feet on the ground." Like many performers who come

or years, it seems, Helena belatedly into their own, a more Bonham Carter was little mature Bonham Carter may simply mature Bonham Carter may simply be more suited to the medium. Last year she adjusted easily to the Shakespearean world of Trevor Nunn's otherwise ill-fated film of Twelfth Night, in which her Olivia caressed the verse as lightly as she did the face of Imogen Stubbs's Viola. Her ready charm as Richard E. Grant's put-upon girlfriend goes a long way towards enlivening a minor film such as Keep the Aspidistra Flying, while in Woody Allen's Mighty Aphrodite Bonham Carter proved that she can play New York neurotics in the best Diane-Mia

> None of these films, however, anticipated her power in The Wings of the Dove, in which she plays a clever young Machiavelli who isn't above using a dying American heiress called Millie (played by Alison Elliotti in order to snare the none-too-wealthy journalist Merton (Linus Roache).

Film adaptations of works by Henry James have proliferated of late this is the third one in 14 months, following Wash-

ington Square and The Portrait of a Lady - but Bonham Carter's performance is one of the few to capture the writer's ambiguous morality, which is as stealthful and shadowy as the characters' nocturnal trysts.

onham Carter admits to doubting that she could do it justice. "It's a very haunting story," she says. "My biggest question mark was whether anyone would care two hoots about Kate. I suppose you don't have to like characters in a novel, but you really do on screen. Rule No I says you do have to care about somebody."

It didn't help, either, that Bonham Carter was somewhat thrown by the original 1902 novel, which director Softley and screenwriter Hossein Amini have pushed forward to the London and Venice of 1910. They pay me to read these novels," she laughs. admitting that James would not be her first port of call at a bookstore. He writes so densely, it's hard to tell what the hell he's talking about. It made me feel stupid because I just did not feel a sense of what he was going on about." The script, mean-



while, "was very sparely written, which was one of its strengths; it's the least wordy script I've ever done. That meant you had to bring a lot to it, and I had no idea if it was coming

If the moral complexity posed a challenge, so, too, did the period: Bonham Carter was aware that she risked becoming a cliché in the bustle, corset and parasol-laden mi-lieu of costume drama. She was only 18, after all, when she abandoned thoughts of Cambridge in order to play the title role in Trevor Nunn's Reformation era love story, Lady Jane. The Forster trio followed: A Room With A View, Where Angels Fear to Tread and Howards End. Add her screen Ophelia (opposite Mel Gibson's Hamlet) and her partnership with Kenneth Branagh in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and

there's no escaping the fact that Bonham Carter has played few contemporary roles: it's difficult to imagine her inhabiting, say, the film world of Mike Leigh, and she famously passed up the gruelling central role in Breaking the Waves that launched Emily Watson's career. "My overwhelming reaction [to Wings] was the Edwardian thing — that I'd have the same hair, the same

frock. I thought, 'Don't do it, Hel; you've been there before." Then, Bonham Carter decided, why not use age to her advantage? Having got intrigued by the story, I thought that whoever plays Kate should not be under 25, or girlified. There is a maturity to her, a knowingness, and I was keen to play her with her hair down and not as an

And historical parts are increasing-

ly becoming, well, history. Next year she will be seen in the film version of Alan Ayckbourn's The Revengers' Comedies, and early talk is of a second shot at the Oscar, based on reports from the set of her performance as a sufferer of motor neurone disease in The Theory of Flight. Perhaps it is time to conclude, endless carping in this country notwithstand-ing, that Helena Bonham Carter can

actually act. "I've learnt the long way round and probably had to bore everyone while doing it," she says. "I wasn't an instantly naturally super-talented actress. But now I do feel definitely more confident as an actor; a bit more legitimate; too. I'm not saying, hello, I can do it. But I might have just got it slightly right, I guess."

The Wings of the Dove opens on Jan 2

Top-hole in a tent

It's nauscating," moans Garry Essendine And it's true, everybody does. Rich, charming and irresponsible, London's most sought-after actor has an infatuated deb in his spare room, a potty playwright bouncing around his studio, and the producer's wife is cheating with his agent in order to get closer to him. "The whole thing is very fragrant, isn't it, Garry?" says his former wife Liz.

Fragrancy, of course, is not being celebrated here. Close inspection of Noël Coward's haracters reveals as much. Middle age is creeping upon David Threifall's Garry. The hair is thinning as quickly as the acting parts. And, al-though he's accused of over-dramatising his life, he can't compete with the friends and fans who monopolise his mornings and turn his Art Deco studio into something like Piccadilly Circus.

The most striking feature of Matthew Lloyd's cracking production is how he fits these mornings into the Royal Exchange's marquee in Upper Campfield Market. With its silver-painted circle in the middle of the tent, squiggly ceiling designs, and no fewer than onen appears entered. than seven separate entrance points. Fotini Dimou's set looks like a giant metal ashtray. What's exciting is how this setting loosens up the play without losing a period that has come back into vogue. The more Garry despairage.

Threlfall warms to his task. swishing around in his collec-tion of Chinese dressing gowns. But ironically the great breaker of hearts seems most comfortable with his formidable secretary, Monica (Amanda Boxer).
The comic turns keep the plot spinning, notably Tom Smith as the infatuated young

THEATRE

the people who want a slice of

his private life, the more

writer with the faulty wiring. Smith turns hero-worship into an unhinged and truly in-spired comic diversion. Donald Sinden in the making, turns Garry's agent, Morris bling with sexual angst.

However it's the three ladies vying for Garry's slippery heart who make our ageing hero with with horror. Kate Isites infamated incenue. Daphne, proves surprisingly resilient after her one-night stand. But the bitchy war of wits between Rachel Fielding's scheming Joanna and Geraldine Alexander's cucumbercool Liz provides the most

CONCERTS

Rich

USC Others

Back to its roots

NO, the Polka's version of with a leggy blonde in the role of the cat or some variant on Bernard Manning as the Ogre. Philip Pullman's adap-tation and Vicky Ireland's production reach back into the roots of a tale which was, as it. happened, written by Charles. Perrault in the Sun King era. That means a Monsieur

Ogre out of Molière in Peter Sowerbutts's "performance, .a. paunchy sot and raddled, rouged old beau who wears 17th-century silks and a curly grey-black wig and is as obsessed with sating his turn as Harpagon with filling his moneybags. Even his feelings about the Princess are poised between heart and gut. If she won't marry him, well, he'll

Too sophisticated an approach for young children? On the contrary, those round me sat rapt through a clearly. briskly told story. Too squea-mishly conceived, at least for those who expect their ogres to take more inhuman forms?... Not when Sowerbutts is sali-vating over his "cuddly little fruit pie", as he calls Lisa Burrows's small, fierce Princess, and declaring he loves her "from the bottom of my. stomach".

In any case Alex Bunn also responsible for the toy-theatre designs — has pro-

duced some terrific ghouls for those with a taste for the grotesque. You remember that Jacques, the poor miller's son, has to face these creatures as he walks through the Gallic badlands to rescue the Princess from the Ogre? Here, he might be venturing onto a rundown planet on the edge of the conflicts in Star Wars.

The tattered inhabitants have vast grey heads with round, staring eyes, beaks for noses and bits of root and branch sprouting from their -scalps. Nor do they have sci-fi credentials only. Any insomniac will identify with them.

Perhaps Carnegie-medallist Pullman gets a bit priggish and didactic as he pushes the point that a princess should value a peasant for his own qualities, not because a cat dressed as a chevalier has introduced him as a marquis. Still, the moral that "a noble spirit is more important than a noble name" isn't a bad one, especially in the Wimbledon area. And ireland's cast, which also includes boyish Conrad Hornby and a feline Dale Superville, is the tops.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

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Doubles toil into trouble

ate in the year, serious drama has arrived on Broadway. As the lights rise at Lincoln Centre on Ralph Funicello's set for Pride's Crossing, a white world of chenille bedspreads and wicker chairs comes into view. Behind billowing gauze curtains float ghosts in white Edwardian dress.

it's a world of American bluebloods, one that playwright Tina Howe (Painting Churches) knows well. Here a father reprimands his son with There'll be no Commodore's Race for you today!"

At the centre of Pride's Crossing, which is both a town and a metaphor for its hero-ine's pivotal achievement, is 90-year-old Mabel Tidings. Played by Cherry Jones with no make-up and, awkwardly, a quavering voice disconcertingly like Katharine HepTHEATRE IN **NEW YORK**

burn's, Mabel seems indomitable. In scenes that alternate with the present, Jones also plays a younger Mabel, modu-lating effortlessly to a sexy. strong-willed and wryly humorous woman. She decides to follow an ancestor and swim the Channel. To succeed, she battles parental opposition and contemporary notions of womanhood. "You are delicate," deciares Kandis Chappell's frigid, one-dimensional mother, but Mabel ignores her.

Mabel's courage fails her in a more important matter. When her trainer and lover (David Lansbury) asks her to lorgo the swim and run away with him, she lapses into the reflexes of her milien. David is Jewish, Mabel chooses the

crossing — and, with, it a life of unhappiness. But all around her others

are trapped: her homosexual brother Frazier (Lansbury, doubling brilliantly), her lifelong admirer Chandler (Dylan Baker), too unadventurous for Mabel, and her granddaughter, Julia (Chappell again), who ran off with a Frenchman and is now made miserable by his infidelity.

Some of the scenes are achingly poignant, but there are annoying loose ends. Disastrously, the director, Jack O'Brien, has attempted gender-blind casting — Angie Phillips plays Mabel's older brother Phineas, indifferently and with a ludicrous moustache, and the brawny Baker dons dresses for two parts. The result is distancing for a tional abuse. play that needs to sustain a delicate mood.

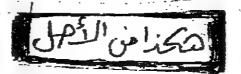
Meanwhile, David Mamet's The Old Neighbourhood has arrived at the Booth Theatre. In the three one-acts, Bobby Gould, played by Peter Riegert with an air of bewilderment, revisits his best friend from high school (Vincent Guastaferro); his sister Jolly and her husband (Path LuPone and Jack Willis); and an old girlfriend (Rebecca

Under Scott Zigler's direction, the actors seem to be reciting the dialogue, with two exceptions. Willis, given the fewest lines, uses his teddybear size to project decency and affection for his wife. And LuPone soars above everyone, engaging one's feelings for Jolly's life and death struggle to overcome her parents' emo-

EDWARD KARAM



Dylan Baker and Cherry Jones in Tina Howe's poignant examination of American bluebloods, Pride's Crossing



-

1

And then there was the sax...

As Sidney Bechet is celebrated on TV, Clive Davis revisits a legend whose life was as exuberant as his playing

f Woody Allen now spends so much of his time punishing himself with clarinet practice when he is not making films, the blame lies with the ghost of Sidney Bechet. As Allen and many other professional and amateur musicians can testify, trying to emulate one of the most beautiful sounds in the world" is the stuff of

A New Orleans Creole, Bechet lived the archetypal footloose jazz life. As a young man he played a command performance at Buckingham Palace before George V, served time in jail for a firearms offence and, during one fallow period in the 1930s, ran a tailor's shop in Harlem. He ended his days in his adopted homeland of France where he was fêted as a hero in the decade before his death from cancer in 1959.

His picaresque career is celebrated tomorrow in Treat It Gentle, an Arena documentary on BBC2. Aside from the voluble contribution of Allen, producer Jo Lustig has round-ed up a sturdy cast headed by Bechet's former protégé Bob Wilber, who sketched a wonderfully intimate portrait of the master, outsize ego and all. in his autobiography Music Was Not Enough. Broadcast in Bechet's cen-

tennial year (some commenta-tors suspect his real birthdate may actually have fallen a few years before 1897), the programme goes some way to restoring him to his rightful place in the pantheon. Though he was acknowledged by many as at least the equal of Louis Armstrong, his wilful temperament - and his prefererice for the recalcitrant soprano saxophone -- ensured that he never exerted anywhere near as much influence

At the beginning of the Twenties, when Armstrong was preparing to form jazz in his own image, Bechet was wandering across Europe. In 1919 the Swiss conductor Ernst Ansermet was so taken by one of his performances that he wrote a glowing and oft-quoted article, Sur Un Orchestre Negre ("I wish to set down the name of this artist of genius; as for myself, I shall never forget it - it is Sidney

uke Ellington, who regarded him as one of the truly great originals" managed to tempt him into his orchestra in 1924. But Bechet. ever the maverick, moved on after a few months. Soon afterwards he returned to Europe as a member of the Revue Nègre, adding its newfound star, Josephine Baker, to his list of romantic

Lustig's film is handicapped by the relative shortage of archive footage of Bechet in his prime. But it comes alive with glorious string of anecdotes.

Who can forget the story of the hard-drinking actress Tallulah Bankhead summoning Wilber and her beloved Bechet to her hotel room, greeting them stark naked, and then asking them to serenade her with a blues at the foot of her bed? Even Woody Allen could not invent anything as vivid as that. ● Arena: Treat If Gentle — Sidney Bechet, BBC2, 11.25pm, tomorrol



Sidney Bechet's wedding in Juan-les-Pins, 1951: he had been engaged to his bride Elizabeth 23 years earlier, but she disappeared for 20 years

CONCERTS: Pianist and orchestra in perfect harmony; plus songs for a Christmas festival

Rich harvest

LSO/Otaka Barbican

THE \$300,000 recently awarded to the 27-year-old Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andrees by the American Irving S. Gilmore Foundation is given not for any single spectacular triumph, but after a period of long, continuous and secret assessment by a panel of roving spies. For Andsnes that is particularly

His outstanding performance on Thursday of Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto, with the London Symphony Orchestra and Tadaaki Otaka, was the harvest of a slow and steady ripening. And the process is, of course, continuing. Each concerto he plays sounds as if it is being performed for the sheer love of the work, not because it has been requested or expected. And as the shoulders and the imagination broaden, so Andsnes grows into the Rachmaninov.

Otaka set an easy, springing pace,

anticipating the neat yet sensuous phrasing of Andenes's opening. As his solo theme returned throughout the movement, it became progressively finer, closer, more private, until it expired in three numb notes. The substantial virtuoso passages in this movement were seamlessly integrated, with the flying octaves and overlapping chords warm, full-toned.

Both here and in the slow movement, definition of melody and of texture was intensely musical. The Intermezzo's song was sung freely, but with a bold energy which made sentiment and the cliches of rubato totally redundant. And the little tumbling scherzo-like figures were played

with exquisite lightness.

With the finale less the dash to the finishing post which it can so often seem, and more a self-renewing celebration of energy and imagination, the LSO was spurred on to its finest playing. Despite its recent demanding US tour, it seemed to have inexhaustible resources to spare for Rachmaninov's Second Symphony. With delicious solos from Christine Pedrill's cor anglais, Andrew Marriner's clarinet and Roy Carter's oboe; this was an exuberant performance to seal a memorable LSO year.

HILARY FINCH

Seasonal sounds

Henry's Eight St John's Smith Square

NOTHING, not even church music, is sacred when it comes to the commercialisation of Christmas. The rarified programme by Henry's Eight, given as part of the Christmas Festival at St John's, Smith Square, promised a refreshing change, and even the group's plugging of its recordings turned out to be low-key. Entitled The Virgin and Christ-Child, the concert focused on contemplative music of the Renaissance and 20th century.

But this was a less than perfect evening. Although Henry's Eight draws its members from Cambridge's best choral foundations - the octet is named after the founder of Trinity College, where it was formed five years ago - the sound here was disappointing. From curdled counter-tenor tone downwards, there were no outstanding voices, but that would have mattered less had they blended better.

Which is not to suggest that the men - two counter-tenors, three tenors and three basses - need to sing in a potentially bland homogeneous style, just that the problems of intonation and ensemble would never have occurred had they really been listening to one another. In Heinrich Isaac's florid Virgo prudentissima the rhythmic complexities remained just that, instead of receding into the background of this rich musical canvas. Traditional settings such as There is no rose and the Coventry Carol do not call for over-

sound dull.

In several pieces, the cool beauty of the music shone through regardless. Praetorius's Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen was one, and the settings by French composers fared well; the singers caught the sensuous tone of Jean Mouton's Nesciens Mater and the tranquillity of Agnus Dei by Arcadelt. Walther's charming carol Joseph lieber, Joseph mein was one of the evening's highlights. The 20th-century carols by Britten, Alan Ridout and Bernard Naylor received depressingly ragged performances, but the group showed the better sense of style in Warlock's magical Bethlehem Down.

Folk's back home

ALL over Europe, jazz musicians are turning increasingly to indigenous folk material for inspiration. Performing as part of "Made in Prague", a week-long festival of Czech culture, Olomouc-born pianist Emil Viklicky set himself firmly at the heart of this trend by drawing on Moravian folk sources for his quartet's music at the Riverside Studios, featuring Zuzana Lapcikova's cimbalom (hammer dulcimer) and vocals alongside a con-

ventional jazz piano trio. Cautionary tales from the Nanoleonic Wars concerning girls who go into the woods with soldiers, plangent romantic laments, paeans to natural beauty - all served as springboards for surprisingly vigorous variations in which Viklicky's piano teased lively jazz improvisations from the pure, clear folk melodies.

Viklicky himself is a wonderfully lyrical yet robust pianist, his playing packed with dynamic and textural subtleties, so it was particular-JOHN ALLISON | ly frustrating to have him restricted in this studio venue

JAZZ **Emil Viklicky** Quartet Riverside, W6

to a typically unresponsive electric instrument. But his interplay with drummer Laco Tropp and bassist Petr Dvorsky was characteristical ly sensitive. Typically, Lapcikova would sing a faintly melancholy air over the gentle grace and filigree delicacy of her cimbalom, then the variations, drawing on all manner of jazz-related forms, would explore the theme's rhythmic and harmonic possibilities. While folk elements are

thoroughly and naturally assimilated into the quartet's iazz-based approach, their use of cimbalom anchors their music firmly in the Moravian tradition. "Roots" music it may have been, but it was also superb jazz.

CHRIS PARKER

This week in THE TIMES

THEATRE

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Vernon Bogdanor on the

start of a British revolution

lished last week, inaugurates a constitutional revolution in Britain. It provides for proportional representation and a fixed-term parliament, and it will create in Scotland a new and quasifederal system of government. In theory Parliament remains sovereign and free to pass laws regulating Scot-land's domestic affairs. In practice, Westminster will

hardly be able to exert its supremacy against an Edinburgh parliament which will see itself as the sole interpreter of Scottish opinion.

Britain has previous experi-ence of devolution, in Northem Ireland between 1921 and 1972. There, too, Westminster's than real. In 1922 the Northern Ireland Government proposed to abolish proportional representation in local elections, something it was entitled to do under the 1920 Government of Ireland Act. The British Government sought to veto the measure. When the Northern Ireland Government threatened to resign, the veto was withdrawn and the measure became law.

Northern Ireland had sought devolution to preserve the union with Britain; the motivation was centripetal, whereas in Scotland it is centrifugal. It will be even more difficult, therefore, for Westminster to exercise sovereignty over Edinburgh than it was over Stormont.

Devolution is, in theory, merely a delegation of power. In practice it will lead to a division of power between Edinburgh and London, the former being responsible for Scottish domestic affairs, the latter for foreign policy, de-

Scotland will come to resemble a province in a federal state and Westminster will be able to exercise its supremacy only under pathological political circumstances, such as occurred in Northern Ireland with the breakdown of civil order in the late 1960s. Thus the sovereignty of Parliament in Westminster, which has hitherto been a real power to legislate for Scotland, becomes the nebulous and uncertain supervision of another legislative body. Power developed will be power transferred.

The Scotland Bill is revolutionary in another respect. The Scottish parliament is to be elected by the German system of proportional representation, by which every elector will have two votes, one for a constituency member and one for a party list. A high position on the party list will normally guarantee election. It will be a new experience in Britain for members to be elected to a legislature without having to face the electorate.

For the European Parliamentary Elections Bill, Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has agreed to consider a proportional system under which electors can vote for an individual candidate on a list, rather than simply accepting the order decreed by party headquarters. Donald Dewar should do the same for

Scotland. Unlike the Commons, the Scottish parliament will be elected for a fixed term of four years, with dissolution pos sible only under exceptional and clearly defined circumstances. Thus the relationship between the Scottish executive and Scottish parliament will be quite different from that between the British Govern-

Under PR, Scotland will almost always have coalition government, something unknown at Westminster except during wartime and economic emergency. Coalitions, however, can always crumble in mid-term. A Labour-SNP coalition, for example, might well fall apart after two years. The danger then would be that, without a majority and yet unable to dissolve, there would be governmental stag-nation in Edinburgh rather than the strong leadership that

Devolution, moreover, affects the government of the whole country, not just of Scotland. It is unlikely to stop with the creation of a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly. Aiready there are signs of a demand for a Northern assembly from those fearful that a Scottish parliament will divert resources away from Newcastle and Liverpool. Labour is committed to creating such regional assemblies where there is evi-

Scotland needs.

dence of a settled demand. Devolution, the Welsh Secretary Ron Davies has declared, is a process and not an event. He is right. The centrifugal forces which are leading to the creation of a parliament in Edinburgh and an assembly in Wales are likely to exert a similar pull in those parts of England which feel most remote from Westminster. The outcome could well be, as it was in Spain, the transformation of a unitary system of government into a thorough-

going quasi-federal state. This prospect need not necessarily be viewed with alarm; Britain is by far the most centralised state in Western Europe, and one of the most centralised democracies in the world. There are, therefore, positive gains to be derived from a policy of decentralisation and the dispersal of power which devolution makes possible.

or need devolution threaten the unity of the country. Indeed given that there are powerful centrifugal forces at work in modern Britain, it might be that the best way to strengthen national sentiment is to give way to these forces a little the better to disarm them.

Scottish devolution. like Irish home rule a century ago, forces us to come to terms with the key question of how politleal societies are held together. To that question, the British answer has hitherto been to concentrate power in one supreme central Parliament. But an alternative answer is possible, that society may be held together through what Glad-stone once called a "recogni-tion of the distinctive qualities of the separate parts of great countries". If that answer is correct, devolution will strengthen national unity, not

The author is Professor of Government, Oxford Univer-

Don't dismiss the paranormal — the argument for ghosts is backed by a solid body of observation

Peterhouse, Cambridge, has a new, or rather quite an old, ghost. There are two paradoxes about ghosts. The first is that they fascinate the human imagination. but seem to repel the modern intellect. The second is that there is protuse evidence that they exist, but a widespread refusal to consider that evidence. The power they have over the imagination is shown in Hamles and Don Giovanni; the plots of the world's greatest play and the world's greatest opera depend on the appear-ance of a ghost. Yet most of us refuse

to believe that they exist. I do believe in them, simply on the veight of evidence. I have never seen a ghost, but I know many honest and same people who have. A cousin discussed rare beetles with a British Museum entomologist in the New Forest; the entomologist had died ten years before. The same cousin frequently saw C. Aubrey Smith's terrier in the family drawing room; the dog was long dead. Two ladies saw the Ston Easton ghost in what long to be one hadroner in the cities. used to be our bedroom; in the attic room above, the upstairs maid had been murdered in the early 1790s.

I even knew someone when she death as a spirit. A cousin by marriage owned a house near Stratford-upon-Avon. She spent her last years as an invalid, sitting in a garden summerhouse which had been built by her first husband in 1910. I used to sit and talk to her there. I went back to see the house in the 1980s, and was told by the owner, a widow, that the garden house was haunted by an old lady who left a great feeling of happiness and peace. The widow had no idea who that

might be.
My grandmother's first cousin, was knighted for being a successful Victorian Commissioner at the Metropolitan Police, was

Haunted by evidence of a spirit world

came into the drawing room the company were called in to dinner; he asked Lady Bath whether they should not wait for the lady dressed in grey he had passed on the stairs. The grey lady is the most celebrated

of the Longleat ghosts. So the stories go on. Some no doubt are embellished, or become so. Any individual story may have been made up, or may have a normal explana-. Yet there are so many of them. and in so many of the cases the witnesses are so good, that it is sheer superstition to refuse to look at the evidence. Something happens, even if

we do not know what.

I am glad that the latest ghost has been sighted at Cambridge, and reported not in a tabloid but by The Times Higher Education Supplement. The Peterhouse ghost has been seen on separate occasions and by three witnesses: he wears a broad collar and carries a large hat. That suggests the costume of the 1650s; if. he were the bursar who hanged himself in 1789, he ought to be wearing a cravat and a tie wig. The witnesses include Andrew Murison, the senior bursar, who was hitherto,a non-believer in such apparitions.

There have been two occasions in English history in which ghosts have become intellectually respectable, and Cambridge is associated with both of them. One was the late 19thcentury foundation of the Society for College, Much more important was the development of what was called "new philosophy" in the second half of the 17th century. The new philosophy threw off the rigid Aristotelian orthodoxy which had lingered on from the Middle Ages; it com-bined elements of neo-Platonism with scientific inquiry. Its eventual institutional expression was the Royal Society. In Cambridge the new philosophy started the scientific tra-dition which continues to this day, but it also found expression in the

William Rees-Mogg

Cambridge Platonists. Their leading figure was Dr Henry More, of Christ's College, who corresponded with Descartes; he was a psychologist as well as a philosopher.

The Cambridge Platonists were very interested in paranormal phonomena; but so was Isaac Newton, whose research into alchemy is only now being understood. Both the neo-Platonists and Newton as a physicist were wrestling with the problems of "action at a distance". Ghosts, if they exist, are themselves an action at a distance problem, the distance in

lady of Longlest was an entirely natural phenomenon; she walked upstairs. After her death she had become a problematic case of walking upstairs out of her apparent time. sequence. We do not know how she

Josephi Gianvill, later Rector of Bath, was an Oxford graduate but a close associate of the Cambridge Platonists. He reported cases of sightings of ghosts and other paranormal phenomena. He first published, in 1661, the intriguing story of the Scholar Gipsy, which so fascinat-ed Matthew Arnold. The Scholar Gipsy, who may be a fiction or a real figure, was a brilliant Oxford scholar who ran out of money, joined a band of gipsies, and learnt their secret arts. A group of his friends met him; he signalled to them not to show their recognition, and promised to demonstrate his new powers. He would tell them the details of a conversation they were to hold when he was not present. They talked in a private room, in his absence; he told them all they had said; they were amazed.

The Scholar Gipsy explained how this was done. He told them that what he did was by the power of imagination, his fancy binding theirs and that he himself had dictated to them the discourse they held together while he was from them. There were warrantable ways of heightening the imagination to

Whether the telepathic hypnosis which the Scholar Gipsy practised is actually possible may be questioned. It is an action at a distance problem.

Isaac Newton thought that scientists should be open about such a problem, which was a difficulty for him when dealing with gravity. Leibnitz had criticised Newton for maintaining that gravity was impressed on matter by the action of God, "making gravity a perpetual miracle". In the second edition of his Optics, published in 1718; Newton replied. "By what efficient cause these tractions (viz gravity, magnetism and electricity) are performed. I do not here enquire. For we ought first to learn from the phenomena of nature what bodies mutually attract each other, and what are the laws and properties of that attraction, before we enquire by what efficient cause it is performed." That is also the right

hosts are important, if they exist, because they raise such interesting questions. They obviously raise the question of human survival. Some ghosts seem merely to be re-enacting past events; they no more prove survival than would a film portrayal by a dead actor. Others are interactive; they converse, give warnings or other messages, and often report their own deaths. Interactive ghosts do support the idea of survival. Ghosts also raise the question of time: is time a unique dimension, which can only be travelled in one direction, or is it like the dimensions of space which can be

way to approach the apparently

tracked to and fro? The Peterhouse ghost has arrived at the right place and perhaps at the right time. I hope Cambridge will not give him the cold shoulder, but will welcome him as a Scholar Gipsy in time, in Isaac Newton's own spirit of

Big Brother, big blather

Peter Riddell

draws up a

reading list for

Labour ministers

ew Labour has little sense of history. For many of Tony Blair's circle, history began in July 1994, when he was elected Labour leader; for some year zero started on May 2 with the triumphant walk up Downing Street. The Blairites are so determined to present the Govern-ment as completely new that any hint of links with the past and "old" Labour is obliterated. This ideological blinker is reinforced by an

ignorance about political events. Mr Blair himself characteristically focuses on the big picture. He shares the regret of Roy Jenkins at the split in the Centre-Left between Liberals and Labour in the first quarter of this century which ensured that the Tories held power for so long. He wants to reunite these strands, pointing to the contribution of Liberals such as Keynes and Beveridge. Mr Blair does read political biographies, though he has few Labour roots and little awareness of past struggles. For instance, there are parallels between the tensions among his main lieutenants (Brown, Prescott, Cook and Mandelson) and similar ones among the big beasts of the Attlee and Wilson Governments.

Some other Labour leaders, such as Donald Dewar and Jack Straw, do have an historical perspective. But, for many, there is little beyond a romantic vision of the achievements of the 1945 administration, with everything in between forgotten.

in some ways this is hardly surprising, since four fifths of current ministers were not involved in national politics when Labour was last in office. But it is more than inexperience. There is also a con-scious preference for modernity over



continuity, for relying on groups rather than constitutional precedents. This is reflected in some the more vacuous marketing zimmicks, like mission statements the attempt to "rebrand" Britain and talk of a "young country". There are also more serious dangers. Anyone with a feeling for how government operates would have spotted the cential conflicts of interest in the Ecclestone affair much earlier.

Veterans of the Wilson and Callaghan administrations have generally not aired their private doubts about these trends. An elder statesman of that era recently asked one of the shrewder members of the Blair Cabinet: "Are they learning yet?" The response was cautiously positive. Time and events will fill in the gaps, but the Blairites do need to learn some history.

A useful starting point is Peter Clarke's Hope and Glory — a balanced history of Britain this century. This might be supplemented by Roy Hattersley's recent Fifty Years On, A Prejudiced History of Britain Since the War. For all the author's egalitarian viewpoint, this is, in fact, a remarkably unprejudiced account, which concludes that because Mr Blair "neither knew nor cared about what Labour had once stood for, he was able to lead the most remarkable revolution in modern political history
... The prophets of new Labour ... took over an established political

party and recreated it in their own

image. The ideas which had inspired

a century of democratic socialists were ruthlessly discredited."

Gordon Brown should study Edmund Dell's The Chancellors, which astringently punctures the false optimism of most occupants of 11 Downing Street. And anyone who thinks that David Blunkett's leaked memo about cuts in benefits is unique should study the similar Tory debate. about welfare reform revealed in Nigel Lawson's masterly The View from Number 11, or Norman-Fowler's unfairly derided Ministers

The Blair team also seem to know little about European history. In this they are hardly unique among British politicians. But despite their claims to be pro-European, Labour ministers have been insensitive to continental traditions and attitudes. Talk of leading Europe is resented when Britain appears to be challeng-ing some of the principal values

and beliefs of the European Union. A lot is going to be written over the coming 12 months about the 150th anniversary of the upheavals of 1848, which are still largely ignored in Britain. One result was Bismarck's belief in the need for social reform to underpin his diplomatic and military ambitions. He is the real architect of a "social Europe". After the Government's procrastination over monetary union, Mr Biair and Mr Brown should read Roy Denman's Missed Chances, a vivid account of how Britain has continually blundered in its relations with the rest of

Europe. A revealing, and brutally realistic account of British foreign policy at the end of the Cold War has been written by Sir Percy - Cradock, Downing Street foreign policy advis-er and chairman of the Joint Intellince Committee in this period, in his In Pursuit of British Interests. These cool, and detached, insights contrast with the passion and partisanship which Sir Percy has displayed over China and Hong Kong. Like Clarke and Deaman. Sir Percy highlights "the failure to lay the ghosts of the past, set a constructive course on Europe and engage public opinion in its support".

oliticians who talk about the "people's priorities" and "beacons" need a linguistic cold shower. By far the best corrective to such gulf remains George Orwell, particularly his classic 1946 essay Politics and the English Language. This includes the marvellous phrase that political language is "designed to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind". I would love to have read Orwell on . some of the inanities of "new

Labourspeak". So instead of inviting meretricious showbusiness "personalities" to Downing Street, Mr Blair — and many of the Blairites — would be better occupied popping along to that most welcome new arrival this year, Politico's, the political bookshop and coffee house on Artillery Row. Reading, and reflection, would not only be a corrective to some of the recent silly populism, but might even produce ter government.

In the stars

THE TROUBLED stars of Diana. Princess of Wales, are at last to be brought before the public gaze: her astrologer. Debbie Frank, is writ-ing a book about her. Although a publisher has yet to be found, it is expected to appear early next year. Ms Frank - a serious type who trained at the Faculty of Astrology in London - had consulted the Princess for eight years and last saw her at, Kensington Palace



shortly before she died. "It will be my story about Diana," she says. They appear to have been rather chummy. "Our relationship involved some very deep soul-searching. I was there to listen to Diana and I realised that I was placed in a position of great trust." says Debbie, 38, who was not paid for her services. "It was a deep and intimate bond. Diana would call me from all over the world and always introduce herself in the same way: 'Hello, I'm just checking in with you Debbie. She trusted me with many things and she was always loyal." (So loyal that she was known to breeze across the

Thames for kitchen suppers at Ms Frank's compact flat in Clapham.) "My work with her was highly confidential but now that she's died, the ethics that would have governed me when she was alive have changed slightly." Quite.

Flick flop

A VERY private party was held last week to celebrate an expensive new flick about the 1970s glam-rock scene, Velver Goldmine. The cast



includes Ewan McGregor, Eddie Izzard and Toni Collette. Some 400 guests were bid to The Leopard Lounge — a low-rent place in Fulham Broadway — for an evening of transvestites, denoting girls sprayed with gold paint, I-Thai canapes, the works. Problem. None of the cast turned up. "Ewan's filming and couldn't make it," says a deflated suit at the production office. "I can't think what happened to the rest."

Hacked off

LOBBY hacks seldom get much exercise, but in South London last Friday they took on a Downing Street football side captained by Tim Allen, Tony Blair's silky spinner. Among those wearing livid red shirts were John Holmes, the PM's private secretary, and Liz Lloyd, an

adviser in the policy unit. Kick-off found Allen rather disgruntled. "The lobby have brought in some very suspect players," he com-plained. "A French professional footballer, who works in the gallery canteen, and Ed Balls, Gordon Brown's adviser, just because he once worked for the FT." His team was not appeased by the result — a 3-3 draw — and has demanded a

 MY best wishes to Lizzie Pitman, the niece of the Earl of Gainsborough and Tony Blair's charmingly optimistic Tory opponent in



Hurt Lizzie Pitoran

Sedgefield: she is in hospital, hav-ing broken her back in a riding acent. A bouquet of Diary flowers is on its way.

Level best

A CHRISTMAS bonus for the 47 Labour MPs who voted on behalf of lone parents - Tony Benn, Liew Smith, the compassionate types comes courtesy of the rock group, The Levellers. They have sent the MPs each a CD about the 17th-century rebel, John Lilburne. "It's rather well put together," says Benn, "but I had a copy already."

Down at heal

DECADES of debauchery have had few repercussions on the friends of the author Molly Parkin - Anita Pallenberg, Twiggy, Mick Jagger, that set. Thinking they might benefit from spiritual guidance, Parkin has set herself up as a faith-healer. "I wanted to heal my friends' pain," she says. Business is stack. "None of them needs me," says Parkin. "They're just too strong."

• YESTERDAY's confrontation between Manchester United and Newcastle did little to enhance re-



THIS charming Christmas card depicts David Hart, a flamboyant chap who dedicated his life to serving the former Defence Secretary, Michael Portillo, and the former Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, as a special adviser. That faraway look in his eyes, aligned to an empty glass, reeks of a man indulging in what might have been.

lations in the Blair household. Tony supports Newcastle, his son, Nicholas, 11, rattles for Manchester, Both attended the match. Mr Blair gets quite carried away," says a resting strip. "He hates to see his side go down."

Lack of Will CRACKS are appearing in the

prime ministerial ranks. Will

Hutton, Editor of The Observer. has fallen out with his former chum Geoffrey Robinson over the paper's coverage of the Paymaster General's offshore investments. For the first time since 1978, Hutton was not invited to the Chancellor's Christmas party, held last week at No IL "Robinson," Hutton opines, must find the criticism particular. ly hurtful coming from us.".

JASPER GERARD



BLAIR'S WHITELAW

A loyal deputy is needed to support Labour's welfare reform

No issue is as important for this Government as welfare reform, and no issue has such a potential to divide its leading players. The leak of a letter from David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, to Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has cast revealing light on the scale of the problem. The anxieties that Mr Blunkett expresses at proposals under consideration by the Department of Social Security are not the antics of a natural rebel but the thoughtful concerns of a born-again Blairite. Mr Blunkett is entirely in sympathy with the broad thrust of the Welfare-to-Work strategy. As his bravery in defending university tuition fees shows, he cannot be dismissed as a shirker of hard choices. He is, however, deeply concerned about potential reforms to benefits for the disabled.

The most arresting point in his letter is the admission that spending on disability benefits is rising by 6 per cent in real terms a year. There is an urgent need to tackle that increase at its source. The Prime Minister's willingness to press ahead with such a reconstruction was underlined in a speech on Saturday. Mr Bhunkett's letter is a reminder that Mr Blair must display political skill as well as policy clarity if his reforms are not to be mis-sold.

The establishment of a new ministerial working group on welfare reform acknowledges the need to co-ordinate the Government's efforts. The crunch will come quickly. In the first few months of next year, reviews of Welfare-to-Work policy and the tax and benefits structure will be completed and Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform, will publish a Green Paper. Tensions between different approaches within government were already widely reported before the leak of Mr Blunkett's letter. Mr Field and his boss, Harriet Harman, have different priorities, and some of Mr Field's ethical thinking has been at odds with the direction in which the Chancellor wishes to go. The need for stronger central direction and clearer presentation of the Government's philosophical position has become pressing in the

wake of the changes to lone parent benefits. Persuasion need not wait upon the conclusion of the government reviews. The Prime Minister should begin now to prepare his lieutenants for the coming campaign. In particular, he should ensure that John Prescott is prepared to play the evangelist. By binding him at an early stage during the rewriting of Clause Four. Mr Blair transformed initial suspicion from the grass roots into positive enthusiasm for change.

Mr Blair's position has been compared. not least by Matthew Parris last week, to Margaret Thatcher's at the beginning of her administration. He has the support of the party's rising talents and a clear conception of the scale of the task which confronts him. But many in his parliamentary party are set upon confrontation. Just as Mrs Thatcher relied on true believers in bridgehead departments to advance her revolution, so Mr Blair must not falter in his support for the most imaginative modernisers. But even more important for her than the will of the committed was the support of her deputy, the pragmatic traditionalist Willie Whitelaw. His loyalty prevented discontent from coalescing into obstruction. Likewise, the knowledge that Mr Prescott stood shoulder-to-shoulder with his leader on welfare reform would be the most effective deterrent to dissidents today.

Mr Prescott's position is complicated by the poor personal chemistry he enjoys with Ms Harman, an antipathy which was intensified by her choice of a selective school for her son. It could be that Ms Harman will have to change jobs next year to make way for another figure to sell the reforms that she has set in train. To keep his deputy onside, Mr Blair may judge that his New Deal is worth moving an old friend.

THE LAST BOER

Botha must testify to the truth commission

The stand-off between Archbishop Desmond Tutu and former President P.W. Botha continued over this weekend. On Friday, for the third time, Mr Botha refused to appear in person before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He restated that position yesterday. Technically, he should have been arrested for contempt some time . The South Atrican authorities have though, little enthusiasm for sending an 81year-old man into incarceration. Nelson Mandela, who has long experience of it, is desperate not to send his predecessor bar one to prison. Frank Kahn, Attornev-General of the Western Cape Province, has deferred a final decision until January 2.

This delay has been designed to offer Mr Botha one last chance. After that, the Government may have little choice but to place him in custody. The truth commission is in the last part of its proceedings: it cannot afford to be himiliated now. A former President under lock and key would be a powerful symbol for the white ultra-Right. Its re-emergence, and the exploitation of Mr Botha as a political prisoner, could sour relations between South Africa's races.

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Mr Botha should think hard before provoking that confrontation. He has agreed to submit written answers to Archbishop Tutu, but says he will not testify before a "circus". He has argued that his fight against "Marrist revolutionaries" requires no apology. However, the truth commission has not, with the notable exception of its treatment of Winnie Mandela, been a circus. Nor has it been some sort of show trial. On the whole it has been a cathartic exercise: it has accounted for and explained violent acts on all sides during the apartheid era.

Many of those who served in Cabinet with Mr Botha have been content to talk to the commission. They have attempted to articulate a legitimate defence. The intensifying struggle for control of South Africa in the 1980s spawned terror that many would rather not have sanctified. In large part, the fear that majority rule would mean a e did lie behind the securi strategy of the white establishment. Only later was the realistic assessment made that it was possible to do business with the ANC and bury apartheid peacefully.

Mr Botha's stance is exceptionally selfish. It makes it difficult for the commission to complete its investigation and draw a line under the past. That in turn means that pardoning or releasing those who did commit atrocities in the name of apartheid becomes harder. Until all those involved in the conflict of the 1980s have said their piece, it will be impossible for Mr Mandela to be as free as he wishes with his power of mercy. For the sake of his own troops, Mr Botha should take the stand. Mr Botha should also remember his own

reputation. As President he imposed the state of emergency, but he also took the first step towards a political settlement. His initiatives to ease apartheid, although condemned at the time as tokenism by his opponents, allowed his successor, F. W. de Klerk, to move more quickly towards the ANC. One of Mr Botha's last acts in office was to meet the imprisoned Mr Mandela. The President who, rightly, said that South Africa had "crossed the Rubicon" should not allow himself to become a Boer martyr. Mr Botha owes the future as well as the past his

A SOFT TOUCH

Hard-headed landlords are cheating clear-headed drinkers

The happy Scrooge hoping for a cheap round of pub drinks as responsible revellers stick to lemonade must nowadays wish that everyone drank beer. For, as those ordering soft drinks find to their fury, mineral water might as well be vodka, to judge by the price. At almost 53 a pint, water is is almost as expensive as a jug of wine. Orange juice, that other standby to keep the head clear in festive times, is served in bottles so small that the contents disappear with one thirsty swig. And for the price of two bottles one might as well order a tot of whisky. No wonder pubs stand accused of mark-ups as high as last night's darts score. No wonder the Government believes that landlords are undermining the Christmas drinks campaign.

Most regulars have long known that mine host has little interest in serving soft, sweet fizz. The careful tomato juice drinker is unlikely to return for a further four pints, or to down peanuts by the fistful. Those nursing their cola in the corner seem to laugh less, talk less and do less to create the merry atmosphere that lures clients into his hostelry. What regulars may not realise is that publicans have their own way to get even with these enemies of his best bitter. A gadget beneath the bar that oozes a dollop of coloured syrup into carbonated water can supply half a dozen soft drinks, purportedly this or that favourite cola, for the cost of a bag of crisps. Yet most drinkers will find precious Little change from a fiver after only three shots from this dispenser of tasteless fizz.

Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, believes that the rip-off is unfair, the mark-up outrageous and the prices a disincentive to any driver with a sense of seasonal responsibility. Injured publicans insist that mineral water revellers occupy as much room, use as many glasses and take up as much time as proper drinkers. They argue that, far from being extortionate, the profit margin on soft drinks is slender and prices are among the lowest in Europe. Those wanting cheap orange juice should stick to the supermarket, they say.

Their claims have as much credibility as the punch of a non-alcoholic beer. Any drinker knows that the average pub offers sickly juice and anaemic cola at a time when the market can supply a tempting variety of soft drinks. The fact is that too many codgers behind the bar cannot be bothered to change, and too many beer companies have an interest in selling only their own products. Customers have seen all this before. For years, pub grub was uneatable until entrepreneurs saw the profit to be made in good food. Fine wine is still virtually unobtainable, but a few landlords are beginning to stock their cellars. And some pub chains, after words with the Government, are to bring down soft drink prices. Britain should look to Canada, where some provinces offer soft drinks at half-price to designated drivers who can show their car keys. Oranges and lemons cost little. They also save lives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Reformation lies in jail education

From the Director General of HM Prison Service

Sir, The nature of educational services offered by the Prison Service is not "shambolic" as Joel Parkes suggests "Can we eliminate evil", article, Law, December 16). On the contrary, there is a clear policy: it is to ensure that education plays a full and effective role in stimulating constructive behaviour in prison, and in equipping the full range of prisoners for a life after prison free from crime.

The Open University, though the most popular, is not the only option for those few prisoners who wish to study for a degree course — some study for external degrees from other universities, and in a couple of cases university staff come to prisons to

teach inmates to degree level. The small number of prisoners following degree-level courses is no measure of the efficacy of prison education. Degree-level education is not what most prisoners need. Sixty per cent of the prison population (which today stands at 63.550) have reading and writing skills at or below basic skills agency level I - skills sufficient to qualify them for only one in 25 job vacancies. Basic education is the top priority in our central task of getting prisoners into work and away from crime when they leave prison.

The service's core curriculum basic education skills, basic IT skills and life and social skills - reflects that. As a core curriculum, it is designed to be offered in all prisons. precisely so that prisoners who move from one prison to another can continue with it

Beyond the core curriculum, there is a wide range of accredited courses now available. Almost 35,000 prisoners have been screened for basic skills needs. Last year the service offered NVQs in 48 subjects and 17,309 individual NVO units were awarded to prisoners. This year we expect to spend £36.25 million on prison education.

There will always be room for improvement. There is some mismatch between what different prisons can provide, which does sometimes disadvantage prisoners who move part-way through more advanced courses; Joel Parkes's article was quite unwarranted and insulting to our many dedicated education staff.

RICHARD TILT. Director General, HM Prison Service, Cleland House, Page Street SWIP 4LN.

From the Chairman of the Association of Prison Education Contractors

Sir, Joel Parkes's comments on prison education are timely.

When prison education was contracted out in 1993, prison governors were given one overall budget for everything except capital funding. Over the last few years total budgets have been progressively cut and they have had to find savings. Because there is little restriction on how they spend their budgets, some have chosen to protect education spending, making most of their cuts in uniformed staff, while others have cut into the contracted services like education and probation.

In October, governors said on BBC Newsnight that further cuts in their overall budget this year could not be met by reductions in uniformed staff, but would mean the total removal of education, probation, libraries and workshops. At least one prison has given notice to its contractor that it will have no education from April. This association wrote to the Pris-

ons Minister. Joyce Quin, in October asking for an urgent meeting to discuss the Government's policy on pris-on education. This is particularly important as we are now engaged in the tendering process to get contracts to deliver prison education from 1999. To date, and after several phone calls to the Home Office, we have received no answer to our letter.

Prison education has become much better organised and the overall quality is rising. However, the quantity available to inmates has declined with spending dropping between 1995-96 and 1996-97 by £2.5 million. In the long term, a proper analysis should be carried out, estimating the correct level of education on budget for each prison. That budget should then be ring-fenced so it is outside the governor's control.

In the short term, the Government needs to make its commitment to a rehabilitative prison system in which education has a vital role. Governors' key performance indicators need to include high education standards.

Finally, the public needs to be weamed off the idea that prison works as an answer to crime. Locking people up is not enough: what you do with prisoners does make a difference, and is worth spending money on.

Yours faithfully. JEFFREY R. BUTCHER Chairman, Association of Prison Education Contractors, c/o Essex County Council Learning Services' Directorate PO Box 47, A Block, County Hall, Chelmsford CM1. Detember 17.

With the postal delays that often occur at this time of year, it is useful, where possible, for letters to be faxed to 0171-782 5046 or sent by e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk Please give telephone numbers.

Tory party reformers seek a voice for the rank-and-file

bring about change. If change can be

achieved only through the leader, par-

ty members must be given the right to

the support of, say. 48 per cent and another 28 per cent, there will be no

third candidate for party members to

consider. They will inevitably then be

asked to allow the one with 48 per cent

to succeed, perhaps without a final

A more effective way of ensuring de-

mocracy was advocated by The Times

on October 8, in a leading article call-

ing for the party's governing board to be "populated by people directly elect-

ed by the entire party. The idea that at least the party's officers on the board should be elected by the mem-

bership is now an active issue of

debate and one that will not go away.

whatever is decided about the leader.

Sir, Whether they are right or wrong,

at least one knows what the so-called "right-wing Tories" who occupy the

floor at the Conservative conference

stand for (Sir Julian Critchley's letter).

This can hardly be said of the last

In my view, the moderate platform

has had its day. What is needed is pos-

vote at all.

Yours sincerely. ERIC CHALKER,

21 Ingleside Close

December 19.

Beckenham BR3 IQU.

From Mr Mark Orton

nitiate such a change.

Even so, if one candidate receives

From Mr John E. Strafford

Sir, The Times is right (leading article, Tories for democracy". December 17) to take credit for the emerging enthusiasm for democracy in the Conservative Party. I cannot agree with the views of Sir Julian Critchley fletter. December 19), which are more akin to the politics of the 19th rather than the

21st century. Electing the leader on the basis of one member, one vote, without an electoral college, is the kind of grand gesture that will help to transform public perception of the party and make it electable again. It will encourage new members to join.

In addition, people will be able to contrast the democratic way in which Conservatives elect their leader with the false democracy of the Labour Party. Labour operates an electoral college in which individual members have only one third of the votes and MPs and members of affiliated organsations (mainly trade unionists) one third each. Such a system enshrines the vested interests of the unions in electing the leader.

By adopting The Times's proposals the Conservatives will be able to highlight Labour's outrageous arrange-

Yours faithfully, JOHN E. STRAFFORD. Chairman, Copov, Campaign for Conservative Party Perama, Fulmer Road. Gerrards Cross SL9 7EG. December 19.

From Mr Eric Chalker

Sir, The Times is a strong advocate of democracy in the Conservative Party. especially for its leader to be elected by one member, one vote. If this is to be the only means of achieving democracy, however, it will not be sufficient for mov to apply only to the final round.

who exercise the vote can do so to

Democracy is effective only if those

itive leadership and not impossible attempts to please all the people all the Yours truly, MARK ORTON,

2 Selwyn Close, Airewas, Staffordshire DE13 7DR. mto888@aoLcom December 19.

From Mr Keith Walters

Sir, As a lifelong Conservative sup-porter, and a local politician, I was

appalled (but not greatly surprised) by the arrogance of Sir Julian Critchley's letter Loday. His last sentence, "Throw them a bone by all means, but make it a small one" brilliantly encapsulates the attitude to the rank-and-file that

has brought the Conservative Party to

its present position in British national

These "right-wing Tories of the most unattractive kind" were always considered suitable to go out canvass-ing for people like Sir Julian: but they are, apparently, not responsible enough to have a significant voice in the selection of a leader.

Yours sincerely. KEITH WALTERS. 1 The Gardens, Sawtry, Huntingdon PE17 5SU. keith_walters

@council.camenty.gov.uk December 19.

From Colonel Charles H. Wilson

Sir. Now the reasons for the decline and fall of the Conservative Party are clear. In the columns opposite on December 19 Matthew Parris instances the excitement caused in the early 1980s when Julian Critchley wrote an anonymous article criticising Mrs Thatcher's leadership, and

the early clouds of doubt it raised. Meanwhile, on this page, also on December 19, Sir Julian Critchley writes about "the 'battle' waged . . . between a relatively moderate platform |at Conservative conferences| and an extremist rank-and-file"; the former possessing good sense and the latter noisy and foolish.

And so it was on the Ides of March - a stab in the back and a public scorned.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WILSON, Foxhills.

70 Long Road, Framingham Earl. Norwich, NRI4 7RZ. December 21.

Two-flag Gibraltar

From General Sir William Jackson

Sir, Mr Mike Gilbert (letter, December 16) should understand that Gibraltar is not ours to give away nor Spain's to acquire: it belongs to the Gibraltarians, whose home it has been for almost 300 years. He implies that the Gibraltarians are Spanish, which they certainly are not.

The capture of the Rock in 1704 is only relevant today as the birthday of the Gibraltarian people. We no longer hold the Rock for strategic reasons. And any parallels with the leased ter-ritories of Hong Kong are equally fallacious: Gibraltar was ceded in perpetuity to Britain.

The original Spanish civilian inhabitants, who abandoned the Rock in 1704, were replaced largely by the small Genoese colony, who stayed on, and brought their relations from Genoa to serve the English fleet and garrison. For the first hundred years of the British period, the land frontier was hermetically sealed by Spain, and the Rock's repopulation depended upon attracting traders and workers from other British bases in the Mediterranean and from Britain. It was not until Napoleon invaded Spain in 1807. and the Rock became a supply base for the local resistance, that Spanish girls could add their genes to the Gibraltarian ethnic mix.

We have tried for over 40 years to persuade Spain to abandon coercion

Sir, It struck me as being slightly iron-

ic that three and a half centuries after

locking up Galileo for doing so, the

Vatican is building its own telescope.

Presumably the telescope will be

Sir, I regard the Lord Chancellor, who

complains about fat-cat lawyers

exploiting the legal aid system (report. December II), as largely responsible for the public belief that anybody

involved in legal aid work exploits the

I act as a duty solicitor, on call to the

police station at any time during a

specified 24-hour period, and the

remuneration made available by a

reluctant Lord Chancellor to my firm,

as a legal aid franchisee, is £61.75 per

hour for work undertaken in unsocial

The other morning, idly waiting for

my client to be charged, at Zam, I

worked out exactly what it was worth

to me to be in the police station at that

ungodly hour. Once I had extracted

from that sum the fixed proportion of

office overheads, that share of it to

which my partners were entitled, and

the income tax payable upon my own share. I was left with 73p. This cat is

Walker, Smith & Way (solicitors),

feeling decidedly lean.

Yours faithfully.

JOHN HEATH,

26 Nicholas Street.

Chester CH1 2PO.

December 11.

Papal U-turn

named Urban VIII.

ADAM K. COHEN.

adam.cohen@ps.net

Legal 'fat cats'

From Mr J. D. H. Heath

32 Onslow Square, SW7 3NS.

Yours faithfully

December 15

From Mr Adam K. Cohen

of this proud and loyal British people, and to adopt a policy of good-neigh-bourliness towards them. This could benefit people on both sides of the frontier and might conceivably lead. in the longer term, to Gibraltar opting for Spain through osmosis, if for no other reason.

Yours faithfully, BILL JACKSON (Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Gibraltar, 1978-82), West Stowell Place, Oare, Marlborough SN8 4JU. December 16.

From Mr M. L. Abel

Sir, Mr Gilbert bases his argument for "an accommodation" with Spain over Gibraltar on an unsupported statement that "Britain twisted a foreign power's arm" to gain the Rock.

What is certainly the case is that Gibraltar has been British (1704 to date) longer than it was Spanish (1492 to 1704). It was Moorish for longer than the combined periods of Spanish then British sovereignty.

There is no valid reason why the

wishes of the overwhelming majority of the Gibraltarians should not be taken into account. It is right that the status quo should be preserved - unless one subscribes to the geography theory of history.

Yours faithfully, M. L. ABEL 28 Waterpark Road, Salford M7 4ET.

what is today the saloon bar of the Fox

I too was born at home, above my

father's sub-post office in Putney. This

is often marked by a star on road

maps — a fact that never ceases to

amaze my son aged eight, especially at

Sir, I often remind my son, at present

out celebrating the festive season, that

his birthplace, on Hyde Terrace.

Leeds, is now a Detoxification Unit.

and Goose (letter, December 16).

Home births

this time of year.

Yours faithfully, PATRICIA E. CAREY,

65 Harefield Avenue.

From Mrs Anne Scott

Yours faithfully,

7 Homelands Road

Sale, Cheshire, M33 4BJ.

Jumping the gun

Sir. House style changes infrequently

at The Times; whilst you promptly

adopted correspondents' e-mail add-

resses it is only today that I notice the

inclusion of postcodes, and omission

From Mr Ian Munro

of county names.

December 13.

ANNE SCOTT

December 17.

Cheam. SM2 7ND.

From Mrs Patricia Carey

is really about. Sir, Mr Phil Ridgway wryly points out to his children that he was born in

> world who need the help that we are so reluctant to give. When we wake up in our warm houses on Christmas morning let us spare a thought for all

VERITY WORTHINGTON (aged 15), Kripling, 122 St John's Avenue, Kidderminster, DYII 6AU.

Heavenly gift

Sir, Mr Charles Ottaway's discovery

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH ÉLLIOT, 51 Ouickley Lane, Chorleywood WD3 5AE. liz@downbelow.demon.co.uk

Sir, A local store here has a crib scene labelled The Holy Family. Reduced

HUGH DOUGLAS, 146 Broadway, Peterborough PEI 4DC.

Should we now write 'Dear Sir?" Or would that be premature? Yours faithfully. IAN MUNRO.

Sport letters, page 33

Happy Saturnalia From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, Christmas is a tricky business. The problem with trying to reclaim it for Christianity (letter, December 17) is that for centuries the inhabitants of the Roman Empire celebrated midwinter as the pagan Saturnalia or the Mithraic Day of the Unconquered Sun, until the Christian authorities eventually decided that it coincided with the birthday of their founder and claimed it as their own.

Most people nowadays are simply reclaiming the festival for its original purposes. And the problem with telling children that Father Christmas doesn't exist (report, December 18) is that for many people the same is true of Jesus; after all, there is far more evidence for Father Christmas.

NICOLAS WALTER. Rationalist Press Association, 88 Islington High Street, NI 8EW.

Spirit of giving

From Miss Verity Worthington

Sir. Ian Brodie's article today on the Heifer Project - under which American present-givers can donate hot lunches to Ethiopian children, for instance, or a goat or a share in a water buffalo to other Third World families - shows that at last the American public, in contrast to the British, have realised what Christmas Instead of buying the unnecessary

gift items that we all receive and don't need each Christmas, we should think of the smiling face of the little Mongolian girl photographed in the article. I for one would be very grateful to receive a card and memento informing me that such a gift had been pur-chased on my behalf. There are so many people in the

the people who may not even know it's

December 17.

From Mrs Elizabeth Elliot

(letter, December 20) raises a new and interesting philosophical point, namely: how many angels can play cards in a tin; and have they room to dance?

December 20.

From Mr Hugh Douglas

to £7.99, Was £12.99". Is it time to discount Christmas aiready?

68 Furzedown Road, Sutton SM25OF. Yours faithfully. December 20.



SANDRINGHAM.

NORFOLK December 21: A Service of Lessons and Carols was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning.

ST JAMES'S PALACE December 20: The Duke of Kent this evening attended the Macmillan Eton College Carof Concert and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughton).

Birthdays today

Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken. 70: Mr James Burke. broadcaster, ol: Mr Robin Corbett, MP, 64: Viscount Davidson, 69; Miss E.M. Diggory, Head Mistress. Manchester High School for Girls, 52: Mr Noel Edmonds, broadcaster, 49: Mr Geoffrey Fitchew, chairman, Building Societies Commission, 58: Mr Maurice Gibb and Mr Robin Gibb. singers. 48: Miss Patricia Hayes, actress, 88; Mrs Karin Jonzen, sculptor, 83: Dr Judith McClure. Headmistress. Sr George's School for Girls, Edinburgh, 52; Sir Trefor Morris, former Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 63: Mr Chris Old. former cricketer, 49; the Rev Lord Sandford, 77: Mr M. Sheldrick, Governor, Holloway Prison, 47: Lord Stott. 88: the Duke of Westminster, 46: Mr Ken Whitmore, playwright, 58: Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, journalist. 74.

Latest wills

Ronald Gordon Fraser, the actor, of London NW3, who died aged 64, left estate valued at £325,216 net.

Air Marshal Sir Denis Crowley-Milling, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £200,941 net. Sir Horace Cutler, former leader of the Greater London Council, of Gerrards Cross. Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £188,433 net. Geoffrey Sellar, of Little-

hampton. West Sussex, left estate valued at £18,531,178 net.

The ways of Roman carpenters revealed

By NORMAN HAMMOND

ROMAN carpenters at Herculaneum stockpiled wood, often for decades, while the merchants who supplied them went as far as the Alps for good timber, a recent study

The evidence for stockpiling ar Pompeii's neighbour, and like it buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in AD79, comes from a carpenter's workshop. where a stack of scorched timbers was found. Measuring the tree-rings. Professor Peter Kuniholm found that some were cut in or after AD72 but others in the same pile had been felled up to several decades earlier.

Some showed signs of having been used, then re-used. suggesting that demolition materials were recycled for

new buildings. When Professor Kuniholm tried to match the tree-ring patterns in the Herculaneum timbers, he had to go as far as the Black Forest south of Munich, Radiocarbon daring confirmed the contemporane ity of the Herculaneum samples with the German trees.

"All of this means that some enterprising Roman timber merchant went north to a seaport like Genoa or Venice. and brought wood south from there to Herculaneum," Professor Kuniholm said.

Minstrels' London parade



The Provost of Southwark Cathedral, the Very Rev Colin Slee, and jester Jonathon de Hadleigh pause at the replica of the Golden Hind yesterday on a minstrels' Christmas parade from the cathedral to Shakespeare's Globe

Nature notes

MISTLE thrushes are singing again: they have a rich, wild song that always ends abruptly, as though the bird had been startled. They will sing on through the roughest winter weather. Song thrushes are also singing again, often repeating the whistling phrases in their song two or three times, but they will fall silent if it gets very cold. Rooks are roosting in dense woods, but in the daytime they sometimes visit their rookeries. If overhead cables pass near the rookery, they like to sit in a flock high on the pylons. Long-tailed tits use

their tails skilfully for balanc-

ing as they swing under twigs looking for moth eggs, but



The mistle thrush

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UK HOLIDAYS

A CHRISTMAS

MESSAGE

GIFTS

with its prickly oval seed heads, and the bushy burdock plants are covered with hooked seeds that will catch on fur and clothes. Buds are already green on sycamore trees, while lime trees have small red buds. Grey squirrels

DJM Two books by Derwent May, based on his articles in The Times, are published by Robson Books: Feather Reports, illustrated by Robin Jacques (£12.95, hardback). and The New Times Nature Diary, illustrated by Richard Blake illustrated by Richard (£6.99, paperback).

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tinge of summer and are ranging afield in search of

University news

Marriages

mo Miss Z.E. Tedder

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Worplesdon. Surrey, between Mr Nigel Frend, son of Colonel and Mrs N.W. Frend, of Fulham, and Miss Zara Tedder, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs TJ. Tedder.

of Normandy, Surrey. The Rev Roy McAllen officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was at-tended by William and Evic Ellion. Miss Laura Tedder and Miss Amanda Frend. Mr Hugo de Pree was best man.

Park House, Farnham, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad. Mr. I.M. Lockwood me Miss T.A. Bradford

The marriage took place on Sat-urday, December 20, at St Stephen's Parish Church, St Albans, of Mr Ian Marsh Lockwood, elder son of Mr and Mrs Derek Lockwood, of Maidstone, Kent, to Miss Tracey Anne Bradford, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Bradford, of St Albans.

Captain T.G. Vallings and Miss LM Bull

The marriage took place on Sat-urday at St Andrew's, South Stoke. Oxfordshire, between Captain Tom Vallings, second son of Vice-Admiral Sir George and Lady Vallings, of Long Ditton, Surrey, and Miss Louisa Bull, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Shrion Williamson officiated.

Simon Williamon officients.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Prudence Dawes. Miss Pippa Bull, Miss Catherine Bishop and Miss Emily Mulcare. Mr Simon Daniells was best man.

A reception was held at Englefield House, Berkshire, and the honormone, will he spent. the honeymoon will be spent

Church of Scotland

The Rev Michael Sheppard to Ervie Kirkoolm with Leswalt, The Rev James McMillan to Christ's Kirk, Glenrothes, The Rev Stuart Duff to Lockwood,

Ordination The Rev Karen K. Watson as assistant, Edinburgh High (St. Giles).

Induction The Rev Alan L. Dunners to Partick Translations

The Rev Robert J. Ramsay from Airlie, Kingoldrum and Ruthven with Glenisla with Kilry with Lintrathen to Invergowrie. The Rev G. Melvyn Wood, from Clark Memorial, Largs, to Cullen and Deskford.

The Rev Joan Arbuthnott from The Rev Gordon Oliver from

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.F. Allen and Miss M.L. Harrington

The forthcoming marriage is announced between Cassidy Flynn Allen, youngest son of Mr Chet Ailen and the late Mrs M. Allen, of Los Angeles, and Melanie Louise Harrington, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Harrington, of Duncote, Northamptonshire. The marriage will take place on December 24, 1997, at Lake Tahoe,

Mr G.E. Bisho and Miss J.L. Campbell

The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Bishop, of Cranbrook, Kent, and Jessica, daughter of Judge Quentin Campbell, of Oxford, and Mrs Penelope Purdon, of North Leigh, Oxfordshire. Mr T.H. Butcher and Miss P. Brett

The engagement is announced, from New York, between Thomas Hendy, elder son of the late Mr Richard Butcher and of Mrs Felicity Butcher, of Bath. Somer-set, and Patricia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas A. Brett, of Ravenna, Ohio.

Mr M.K. Duggan and Miss C.J. Price The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Captain and Mrs Terence Duggan, of Highmoor, Oxfordshire, and Ken-

sington, London, and Carolyn Jayne, daughter of Captain Rod-ney Price, of Hong Kong, and Mrs Maureen Price, of Easingwold, Mr A.J. Fishpoo and Miss S.L. Waldron

The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs John Fishpool, of Kempley, Gloucestershire, and Sharon, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Waldron, of Gloucester.

Mr G.W.C. Harvey and Miss R.J. Gilbert The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs John Harvey, of Hitchin. Herutordshire, and Rebecca, your-Hertfordshire, and Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Gilbert, of Cannock, Staffordshire.

> Northfield, Massachusetts, 1899; Baron Richard von Kraft-Ebing, neuro-psychiatrist, Graz, 1902; Namanael West, novelist, California. 1940; Bestrix Potter, children's

Alired Dreyfus, a French army

Wilhelm Rongen made the first radiograph, or X-ray, of his wife's

The 70mph speed limit was introduced in Britain, 1965.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880

DEATHS

Hill - Stanley (Stan) of

LAWRENCE - On December 19th, peacefully in Lymington Hospital, Helen Mary, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of Reg and loving mother of Devid and Richard. Fourers 3 Service at Bournersouth Cremenciam on Tuesday December 30th at 11.45 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for The Salvation Acmy may be sent c/o F.W. House and 3 ons. F/D, Lymington, Rampehire, 8041 9NE.

LOMAX - Kenneth Claud of Cobham, Survey a Freeman of Institute of Bookbinding and Allied Trades, Peacefully on December 18th in Ashtead Hospital aged 70. Greatly loved husband of Doris, proud father of Clifford, Warran and Ashley and a much loved 'Grandad'. Crimation at Randalis Park, Leatherbead on Wednesday December 25th at 11.30am. Family flowers unly, donations if desired to Bookbinders Charitable Society.

MORHEMENT - B. Joyce died peacefully aged 102 on 16th December 1997. Whis of lare Commander John Mornement, beloved "Trainty Joyce" to Charlotte, Rage, Cerl, Mike, Siam, Susan, Mark and Tronne and friend to many more besides. Sedly missed by Peter and Jane. Functal on Sth January 1998 2.15 pm at Beading Cemptorium, Irlends and family selcome.

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

Tim sarris fruelf la benecrates by those who live on it, for they have broken laws, dis-obeyed statutes, and violated the evaluating cov-enant issiah 24:5

BIRTHS

BAIARDO - On October 23rd at October Charlette and Chelsea Bospital, to Indita and Fablo, a beautiful daughter, Orlana Sofia, bora 8.05 pm, 3.345 Kgs.

CRAWFORD - On 9th December 1997 in Separation (née Marcell) and Justin, a LIDGER - On December 8th in Singapore, to Sammy (see Taylor) and William, a daughter, Jestica Elizabeth.

Mills - On December 9th, to Jahe (nee Richards) and Andrew, a beautiful son, William James.

O'COMMILL - On Monday December 15th, to Oravia and Sean, a daughter, Ecisin Marie, a sister for Clara. STEWART - On December 18vo at Winchester, to Sally (nee lung) and Alastair, a son, Occar George, a brother for Alexander, Clemmic and

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

MellyEnna Allo Gen. CB, died peacefully at home after a short illness on 18th December. Substed humband of Hilde and dearly belowed inter of Margaret and Michael, grandfather, greatgrandfather and brother. Funeral on 24th December 1 pm at Headcorn Catholic Church, followed by burial at 2.30 pm at Tenterien Camelery. COOPER - On 22nd December 1937 at St Edmund's County Level, Mctard Mark to Dorothy. A joyous

ANNIVERSARIES

HOLROYD: DUMVILLE CON December 22nd 1947 at St Matthew's Church, Bankfoot, Bradford, Ernseth to Brenta. Rappy in Holbrook, Suffalk.

DEATHS

CALDWELL - On 18th December, peacefully ar Southward, Rambiedown Lane, West Childington, Mabel aged 99 years. Widow of Col. Wilfrid Caldwell. loved mother of Bill grandmother of Pions, and grandmother of Fione, William and James, Private funetal, followed by Memorial Service at St Mary's Church, Firtheworth et 2.30 pm on Monday, January 5th Family flowers only please but donations to The Priemic of King Beard VII Hospital, Midhurst would be appreciated.

Giro Bank). On December 17th in Cheltenham, aged 75 years. Sadly missed by Fattick and also his sistem, nicces and sephen. A private cremation has taken place. Enquiries to W.S. Trenhalle Funeral Directors, tel: (01242) 224897.

Paints On 17th December 1997, James (Jinmy) aged 74 years, after many years of partient suffering, much loved husband of Mangaret and loving father to John, Mike and their families, funeral Service at 5t Peter's Church. Bedford on Wednesday 24th December at 12.45 pm. Family flowers only, please, but preferred dopations for Stroke Association to Arnolds Funeral Service, Soff Avence, Bedford MS41 7TE, DIRKSH-VAN-SCHALKWYK Willow peacefully at home in Monte Carlo on 19th December aged 90, former South African Minister in London and Ambassador to Canada, France and Laly. Husband of the late Mary Jame (nee Pelly) and of the late Morgan-Grenville) and father of John and the late Willom and grandfather Funcral at St. Paul's church, Monte Carlo, Tuesday 23rd lacompat.

PRTERS - Catherine (Elt).
Dazify loved wife for Séyears spent in five continents to William (Bill)
Peters lately EM Diplomatic Service. Died in Chaucer Hospital, Canterbury on 19th December, quickly and served at the end offer.

19th December, quickly and neuroly at the end after long fliness bravely bone, aged 37. Funeral at St. Leonard's Church, Upper Deal, Kent on Monday 29th December at 2.15pm. Family

flowers only but contributions if wished to Jubilee 2000 Condition, PO Box 100, SE1 7RT.

Bon 100, SE1 78T.

SEGAR - Ism Hemrood on 18th December 1997 peacefully at home. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral service at Trunton Duans cremmorium on Wednesday 24th December at 11.30am. Pamily flowers only.

SHARFE - Beth, formany of Actob, Compectedly at home in Berwick-upon-Tweed on 17th December 1997. Belowd wife of Canada and mother of Brian and Tanya. Funeral in Edinburgh today 22 and December. Family flowers only.

22nd December, Family flowers only.

WEAVER - Unrula peacetuity on December 17th 1997 in her bed at Glebe Flace, London, aged 81 years. During mother of Nicholas, the late Martin and Gles and grandmother of 7. Funeral private. No flowers. Memocial Service at 12 most on Jamury 22nd 1998 at Enoises Old Church London.

on jamuny Zind 1978 at Diobas Old Church London. Old Church London. Control of the Control of Chiatine and grandmother of Michele, Christine (Kild). Stephanie, Emily and Alexandra. Funeral service on 23rd December at 12 moon at 5t. Marrys Church, Thorpe followed by hussel at Thorpe cemetery at 1 pm. Enquiries to F. Harrison & Son (01784) 432163.

WHEN - Richard of Butleigh, passed penerally away on 19th December 1977 sped 49 years. Rushal service at 5t. Leonard's Church, Sutleigh, Someties on a control of the Church, Sutleigh, Someties on the Church, Someties on the Church, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Someties on the Church, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sutleigh, Sut

St. Leonard's Church, Butleigh, Somerset on Wetherday 24th December at 10.00am, Family flowers only, flomations for Muspaver Park Hospital or Non Hodghins Lymphoma Society ole Forsey & Son Funeral Directors, Butleigh, Glastonbury, Somerset.

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and manufacture of the Ship's Company who lost their liver shot abe was sunk on 23/12/4). The first little aircraft carrier in the lettle of the Atlantic.

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management, Cerri Darbon, law
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Charles Donald, physics, David
Huss, physics, Jonathan Leather,
geology, Claire Lewis, chemistry,
Richard Meddeall, engineering Science, Neil Medley, physics, Law
rence Moon, PPP, Charalambos,
Neophytou, English, Matthew
Pescock, Literae Humanlores,
Samuel Roberts, human sciences,
Ellot Simons, geography, Owen
Thomas, English, Annabel Todd
chemistry, Guy Weston-Smith
classics and modern languages,
Catherine Wilson, chemistry.
They have all been awarded a college

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PY CADER OF THE BOARD

THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Deadlines and Opening Times Birth, Marriage & Death Notices For notices to appear on Wednesday Documber 34th, the deadline is Toesday December 23rd at 12 noon. For untices to appear on Friday December 35th and Saturday residen 27th, the dendine is Wednesday December 24th at 12 noon Thursday December 25th - Office Closed.

Feday December 35th - Office Closed.

The office will be open on the office 27th from 9.00 am to 11.30 cm.
Normal hours on Monday December 29th and Taendry December 20th. Tel: 0171 680 6880

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Nonces forTuesday December 38th, should be received by moon on
Monday December 39th, Wednesday December 31st, by
Spin on Monday December 29th; Thursday and Friday
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30th 1997; and Saturday and Monday January 3rd and
Sth by 2pm on Wednesday December 31st. Phone scul Court Page amouncements by post/fex to; firs I. Neenen, Court & Social Advertising, The Thurs, FO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XS. Td: 0171 782 7347. Fax 0171 782 7725

Please exclude in all correspondence-passure of cities one of the parties concerned or a parent, a daytime and home telephone number and address, Advertising Rate is £15.28 per line inc VAT.

and Miss R. Hill The marriage will take place today, in Zurich, of Marcel, son of Jim and Trudy Fok, of Zurich, to Rowenz, daughter of Martin and Cecily Hill, of Aberfeldy, A service of blessing will take place later in

Mr J.A. Eadie and Miss R.V. Morgan

The engagement is announced, between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alastair Eadle, of Bourne Orchard, Brickendon, Hertford, and Rebecca, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs David Morgan. of The Old Nursery, Hill Chorlion,

Mr W.C. Gardner and Miss E.A. Warden

The angagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs James Gardner, of Wanaka, New Zealand, and Emily, daugh ter of Mr and Mrs Warwick Warden, of Little Hacham, Herriordshire.

Mr M.L.W. Hanslip Ward and Miss R.B. Prior

The engagement is announced between Manhew, only son of Mr C.M. Hanslip Ward, of Hartiey, Kent, and of Mrs M.A. Hanslip Ward, of Rochester, Kent, and Rosemary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.A. Prior, of Ruishton.

Dr F.H. Sansbe and Dr H.M. Schlich

The engagement is announced between Francis Hugh, son of Canon and Mrs Christopher Sansbury, of Long Melford, Sulfolk, and Henrietta Miriam, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Schlich, of Broadchyst. Devon.

Mr D.C. Slade and Miss A.M. Rose

The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr Stanley Slade and the late Mrs. Slade, of Ongar, Essex, and Alison, only daughter of the late Captain Michael Rose and of Mrs Rose, of Lee-on-the-Solent,

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Karl Abel, compos Cöthen, Germany, 1725; John Crome, landscape painter, Nor-wich, 1768; Jean Henri Fabre, naturalist, St-Léons, France, 1823; Giacomo Puccini, composer, Lucca, Italy, 1858; Edwin Arlington Robinson, poet, Head Tide, Maine, 1869; Edgar Varese, com-poser, Paris, 1883.

DEATHS: Duc de Sully, soldier and statesman, Villebon. France, 1641; William Hyde Wollaston physician, London, 1828; George Eliot, novelist, London, 1880; Dwight Moody, evangelist.

writer, Sawrey, Lancashire, 1943; Harry Langdon, silent film star. California, 1944.

officer, was imprisoned on Devil's Island on a charge of

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FAX: 0171 481 9313

MULICIA ASSUMED IN THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

NOTICE IS HERREY (EVEN that a Petition was on 28th November 1997 presented to Her Majeury's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of

ally Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the tentifuration of the said reduction of capital should reduction of capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Coursel for that

INITIED - andandIN THE MATTER Of THE COMPANIES ACT 1965
NOTICE IS REREST GRYEN that the Cutter of the High Count of Justice (Chantenery Berleichen) dated 17 December 1997 continuing the todaction of the appear of the above-massed Cotopany from \$50,000,000 to \$240,500,367 and the Minter approved by the High Count showing with respect to the company as showing with respect to the company as the country of the Country of the High Country of the Country of the High Country of Country of the High Country of Country of the High Country of Country of Type High Cou of the replacement of the second of the seco

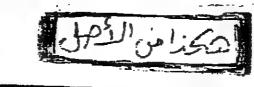
The PRACOCK AND ARCHER LIMITED

RECENTERED NO. 20004610

ROTICE IS HEREY CIVEN, purpose to bection 48(2) of the insolvency Act 1986, and the insolvency at the sale and the insolvency will be hald at The Middland Hotel, Belgiand Road, Derby 1981 25Q on Priday 17 jessenty 1998 or 12.02 am for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the superior prepared by the Administrative Becariors to the Administrative Becariors and Act. The sheeting are in the administration of creditions Committee on creditions. Committee of the administrative to a credition of the act of the administrative and in the insolvency 15 jensery 1998 written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company and the civim has been duly admitted under the movinions of Rule 3.11 of The Level News 1986, and (b) there has been hodged with me any pracy which the Condition hereds to be used on his behalf Mat DORRINGTOR ACT.

PUBLIC NOTICES FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACT 1974
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The Society causes to be entried to the privileges of a registered society, but without prejudice to any Landiny Incorred by the society, which may be enforced against it as it such cancellation had not suban place.
Chief Registrar.
Date: 15 December 1997
Victory House, 30-34 Kingway
London WIZE 685



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LORD KINGS NORTON

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Lord Kings Norton (Harold Roxbee Cox), aeronantical engineer, Chancellor of Cranfield University (formerly Cranfield Institute of Technology), died yesterday in ospital in Gloucestershire aged 95. He was born in Birmingham on June 6, 190<u>2</u>

cientist, administrator and industrialist, Harold Roxbee Cox was for more than half a century a leading figure in British aviation. A past President of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and a former Chief Scientist to the Ministry of Fuel and Power, he brought sound judgment, fairness and clarity of thought to a wide range of public service. and a catholic span of activities, in a long life that ran from the era of the leisurely rigid airship to that of the supersonic jet. The son of William and Amelia Rosbee

Cox, "Roxbee" - as he was known to legions of friends throughout his life went, first, to Kings Norton Grammar School, Birmingham, and, from there, in 1918, as a 16-year-old engineering apprentice, to the Austin Motor Company at its Northfield Works, Longbridge. There, to his delight, in addition to motorcar work. he took part in the design and building of a single seat light biplane — the "Austin Whippet" of which, in the depressed aftermath of war, only five were built.

The work had given him a taste for aviation. That was reinforced in July of 1919 when the British rigid airship R34 made the first "double-crossing" of the North Atlantic. Its widely acclaimed success launched Roxbee Cox upon his lifelong interest in lighter-than-air, and prompted him to start what was to become a magnificent and probably unrivalled collection of balloon and

airship prints and paintings. While still at Longbridge he gained an external London University BSc with first class honours and went on, in 1922, to do research for his PhD at London's Imperial College of Science and Technology, specifically on aircraft wing sections. His abiding airship interest then led him, in 1924, to apply for a post in the newlyformed Royal Airship Works at Cardington, Bedford, to work on the design of RIOI in a dedicated team under

Colonel Vincent Richmond. At Cardington, Cox's aerodynamic talents were quickly recognised and with his contemporaries, the future Lord Baker of Windrush and the future Sir Alfred Pugsley - he laid out the "near perfect, streamline form" of RiOl, as a clear advance on earlier Zeppeliti practice. For this, in 1928, the Royal Aeronautical Society awarded him the R38 Memorial Prize for a paper on "external forces on an

airship structure".
- Close and continued liaison between the Royal Airship Works and the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough produced, in 1929, an offer to Roxhee Cox to join the Aerodynamics Department of the RAE — a centre of aeronautical activity which was to occupy him for the next decade (apart from a brief return to Cardington in 1931 as chief technical officer, ended by the government decision to abandon further airship work).

There is the next few years from 1922 to

During the next four years, from 1932 to 1935. Roxbee Cox led investigations at the RAE into problems of wing flutter and the stability of monoplane structures, areas in which increasing aircraft speeds were causing catastrophic difficulties. At the same time, at Imperial College, he began to build a sound reputation as a lecturer

on aircraft structures.

Promoted in 1935 to be principal scientific officer in the aerodynamics department of the RAE, he was switched, when war clouds began to loom, to become head of the RAE's Air Defence Department. There he began a happy collaboration with some of the chief designers of the British aircraft industry, working on the new generation of British monoplane fighters (Hurricane, Spitfire and Defiant) and the new monoplane bombers (Battle, Blenheim, Wellington and Whitley). At the same time, he was able to keep in touch with lighter-than-air developments through the improvisation

of the kite-balloon barrage.

By 1938, his personal and technical qualities were recognised in quite a different field when, on March 1, 1938, he was appointed the first chief technical officer of the newly formed Air Registration Board - a statutory, autonomous body set up to become responsible for the standards of design, construction and maintenance of British civil aircraft, and to award (or withhold) certificates of

airworthiness. Doubts about the appointment of a



"boffin" to a such a key position in relation to British civil aircraft were dispelled when the aircraft industry welcomed Roxbee Cox as one who combined academic prowess with practical knowhow, sound common sense and a genial ability to communicate; qualities which remained with him - and served him

well - for the rest of his life. Under Roxbee Cox - and its chairman Sir Maurice Denny - the new ARB quickly gained a reputation for efficiency

and ability and, in its first year of operation, recommended the granting of certificates of airworthiness to 987 individ-

mal siceralit. When war came in Sentember 1939 and the ARB went into semi-purdah for the duration, there came — inevitably — another major change in Roxbee Cox's career. Back at the RAE, he was appointed superintendent of scientific research, and then - with the formation of the Ministry of Aircraft Production, in 1940 — its director of scientific research on new projects, including troop-carrying gliders.

From that, in 1941, as director of special projects, in collaboration with Sir Frank Whittle, he was charged with the administration and co-ordination of the top-secret development of the jet engine. On April 28, 1944. Sir Stafford Cripps, as Minister of Aircraft Production, appointed Roxbee Cox chairman and managing director of Power Jets (Research and Development) Ltd. a state-owned company, to take over the former small, privately owned body of the same name.

That plunged Roxbee Cox into the delicate task of preserving a balance between Power Jets and Whittle on the one hand (involved with prototype en-gines), while leaving — to Whittle's chagrin — production to the aero-engine industry, represented chiefly by Rolls-Royce, Armstrong Siddeley, de Havilland, Bristol and Metropolitan-Vickers. Roxbee Cox's diplomatic talents were exercised to the limit in keeping peace (through his Gas-Turbine Collaboration Committee) between those aero-engine companies and Frank Whittle himself, who, understandably, felt that Power Jets should build, fly and produce its own engines to his designs.

That was, however, not government policy and in 1946, Power Jets was absorbed into the National Gas Turbine Establishment at Pvestock, under Roxbee Cox, at a time when he was also President of the Royal Aeronautical Society (1947-49) and a member of the Aeronautical Research Council.

Meanwhile, on July 22, 1941. Roxbee Cox, with Air Marshai Linnell, had introduced an American aviation mission to the secrets of jet propulsion, leading on to manufacture in the United States. For this he was awarded the American Medal

of Freedom with Silver Palm. In 1948, with that behind him, such was his reputation in the broad field of national technology that he was appointed to be Chief Scientist of the then vital Ministry of Fuel and Power, and, in the Birthday Honours of 1953, appointed a

Knight Bachelor. in the same year, having diplomatically pointed out to the Committees of Scientific Manpower, (of which he was a member), that, out of the 52 Permanent Secretaries

HAROLD GENEEN

of government departments, only one was a scientist (and he at the Ministry of Pensions), he retired from the Civil Service and became vice-chairman of the governing body of the College of Aeronautics at Cranfield, which he had helped to form in 1944.

Thereafter, he returned to his previous hailiwick as vice-chairman of the Council of the Air Registration Board, as well as the chairmanship of the National Council for Technological Awards, and embarked upon an industrial career, in which he collected a number of enjoyable director-

Among them, in 1961, he became chairman of the Metal Box Company, and chairman of Berger Jenson and Nichol-son. From 1961 to 1965 he was chairman of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, a director of Boulton Paul Aircraft, of Ricardo and Company, and of

the Steel Company, Wales. In 1965 Sir Harold Roxbee Cox was created a life peer, as Baron Kings Norton, sitting on the cross benches under the Labour administration of Harold Wilson. He was appointed chairman of the governing body of the College of Aeronautics and, in 1969, when it was granted a royal charter, he became the first Chancellor of the Cranfield Institute of Technology, while, between 1965 and 1972, he was chairman of the Air. Registration Board. He was President of the Royal Institution from 1969 to 1976.

From his contributions to the building of the airship Ri01 to those of the development of the jet engine, combined with his work on scientific research and on technical education, together with the receipt of so many academic honours, his career embraced an almost unrivalled record of service in Britain's national life. And to it all he brought great good humour and a lively sense of fun, not least appreciated in his regular speeches in the House of Lords, where he took an active

part in debates on subjects which ranged from unidentified flying objects to the deterioration of the English language. In 1927 he had married Marjorie Pack of Northwood, by whom he had two sons. She died in 1980. In 1982, he married Joan Pascoe of Torquay, who survives him. She further enhanced his last, still active, 15 years, to which she brought much care

JUZO ITAMI

Juzo Itami, Japanese film director, committed suicide on December 20 aged 64. He was born in Kyoto in 1933,

THE shock of Juzo Itemi's dramatic death is heightened by the appearance on Tokyo... streets today of the magazine Flash, containing an account and a photograph apparently suggesting that the film direcfor was having an affair with an unnamed 26 year-old woman. Itami, having vigorously denied any improper relationship, on Saburday might jumped from the roof of the eight-story building where he had his office, leaving a note which said: Only through my death can I prove

my innocence." It was not the first time that high drams had crossed over from the movies to enter his life. In 1992 he was attacked outside his home by knifewielding yakuza gangsters and suffered serious lacerations on his face, neck and arms, requiring several weeks of recovery in hospital.

The vicious assault followed the appearance of his film. Minbo no Omna (The Gangster's Moll), which satirised greed and disloyalty within the valura establishment, Japan's version of the Mafia. itami also had to resort to participating in a witness protection programme for his own safety, an experience. which he used as a theme in his most recent film. Mautai-No-Onna, in which an actress, having witnessed 2 murder by a religious cult. testifies in the face of threats.

Kyoto, where Juzo Itami was born, is not only the ancient capital of Japan, but was the birthplace in 1897 of the Japanese film industry. Juzo's father was the notable prewar director' Mansaku Itami A career as artist, essayist and television talkshow host was accompanied by early success in acting. Juzo Itami even appeared in films



by Western directors, such as Nicholas Ray's 55 Days in Peking (1963) and Richard Brook's Lord Jim (1965).

It was not until he had reached 50 that he turned to directing his own screenplays, achieving an immediate critical and commercial success with The Funeral, alternatively known as Death Japanese Style (1984), a mordant and inventive black comedy on undertaking rituals.

It was followed by the work that won him an international reputation, the brilliant "foodie" film *Tampopo* (1986), an enchanting gastronomic satire (he described it as a "ramen western") in which he artfully demonstrated the link between eating and sex, with constant close-ups of erotically mouthwatering dishes to provoke unrest in audience tastebuds.

As in his first film and all that followed, heading the cast, and playing the eager proprietress of a noodle restaurant, was the incandescent actress Nobuko Miyamoto, his wife and muse, whose integral position in his life is shown by another passage in his suicide note which reads: "Please take care of Ms Miyamoto. She is the best wife, mother and actress in Japan."

In accordance with his skills, uncommon in Japan, in



A scene from Itami's hit film Tampopo (1986)

presenting strong female characters, she was the lead in A Taxing Woman (1987), playing the fearless investigator of Japanese businessmen's padded expense accounts, and while life among the tax inspectors might seem to be an umpromising subject, it yielded so much rich cornedy and box-office success that it was quickly followed by a sequel (A Taxing Woman's Return) the

next year, in which she set out to net bigger fish, criminals engaged in big-time tax fraud.

A-Ge-Man (Tales of a Golden Geisha), a memorable success at the 1990 Venice festival, was denied a proper release in Britain, where modern Japanese cinema is unjustly neglected. In it Miyamoto gave a superbly capable performance as a modern geisha. Who although trained from adolescence to bring good fortune to

director managed to combine humour with a sharp-edged often brutal tone.

Itami became the most internationally renowned Japanese director after Akira Kurosawa, who along with Ozu and Buñuel, exerted considerable influence on his work. His acerbic attacks on Japanese capitalism, organised crime, bureaucrats, the law, and his skill at combining satirical comedy with examinations of serious social issues, brought him huge popularity with domestic audiences, and respect

abroad. At the time of his death he had plans to make a film based on the 1995 nerve gas attack on the Tokyo metro by the Aum Shinrikyo doomsday cultists, who killed a dozen

He leaves Nobuko Miyapowerful men, somehow remoto, his widow, and their tained her moral purity. The two sons.

Harold Geneen, former chairman of the American multinational corporation ITT, died in New York on November 21 aged 87. He was born

January 22, 1910. HAROLD GENEEN belonged to the old school of

Geneen was also the man at the helm when ITT was investigated for alleged tax abuses and influence peddling. He remained unrepentant throughout

only line was the bottom line. The historian of ITT. Anthony Sampson, in his book The Sovereign State: The Secret History of ITT (1973), wrote that under Geneen's leadership the company became so powerful it was accountable to no nation, "held together literally by one man against whom

nobody dared argue".

As for Geneen, "You read a book from beginning to end. You run a business the opposite way," he was fond of saying. You start with the end and then you do everything you must to reach it." He once responded to accusations that he was an obsessive workaholic with the comment that he was "guilty as charged". Harold Sydney Geneen was

born in Bournemouth, the son of a Russian Jewish concert manager and an Italian moth er. The family left England before he was one year old, and he grew up in the United

Working on the New York Stock Exchange by day and studying accountancy at night, Geneen had a series of financial posts in New York, developing his unique man-

in Bournemouth on

corporate tycoons - visionary, outspoken, power-hungry and mercurial. In twenty years as chairman of ITT, he turned an unremarkable telecommunications company into a massive multinational conglomerate, increasing its sales from \$700 million to \$17 billion.

For Harold Geneen, the

ement style, before joining ITT as chairman in 1959. At that time, International Telephone and Telegraph was a loose conglomeration of Caribbean telephone companies which had been formed in 1920. Geneen's first move as chairman was to remove autonomy from managers, making them answerable to a centralised committee.

Faced with the prospect of Latin American governments seeking to nationalise telecommunications companies, Geneen sold those interests and embarked on an aggressive acquisition programme within the United States. This he often did after little more than a 20-minute inspection of the company's accounts.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s more than 250 companies were added to the ITT portfolio, including Avis Car Rental, Sheraton Hotels, and interests in cosmetics, lightbulbs, books and hardware. The only areas in which he refused to invest were computers, airlines and films. which he believed to be too

Not all of Geneen's takeover

attempts were successful. A

bid for the American Broad-

casting Company in 1966 was

thwarted by the US Depart-ment of Justice, using anti-

trust laws. And in the 1970s

Geneen's reputation was to

take a battering as the com-

pany faced allegations of tax

evasion and rumours that ITT

had offered each to the CIA to

undermine the Allende regime

in Chile, which was planning

to nationalise ITT operations

there. ITT also came under the

scrutiny of the Securities and

Exchange Commission, the

Watergate special prosecutor.

the Federal Grand Jury and a

Senate sub-committee on mul-

It was Geneen's autocratic

management style that be-came the stuff of legend.

Although he drew a compara-

tively modest salary of \$1 mil-

lion per year and asked to be

called Harold, he inspired fear

both internally and on Wall

Street. ITT management meet-

ings chaired by Geneen took

place on the last Monday of

each month in Brussels, and

where the curtains were al-

ran for four days in a room

ways drawn.

tinational corporations.

blunt manner was said to make executives shake in terror. His motto was "I want no surprises," and he bullied his staff because, as he put it, "the worst disease which can afflict executives in their work is not alcoholism but egotism". However, after a period of

There Geneen subjected his

managers to lengthy cross-

examinations about profits

and performance, and his

rapid expansion, ITT fell into decline in the late 1970s. largely because of allegations of financial impropriety and bribery. Geneen stood down as chief executive in 1977 and as chairman in 1979. Following his departure, ITT started to break up. In retirement Geneen continued to buy and sell on his own account. "After I left, the company

veered on to a new course. emphasising consolidation rather than growth. Often I have felt the stab of frustration and regret, wondering what might have been," he wrote in his last book, The Synergy Myth, which was published earlier this year. The book was his last chance to defend his own record and management style, while attacking modern corporate practices and concepts. He continued to champion the taking of calculated risks, worker empowerment, strong leadership and decisiveness.

Surprisingly, in view of his own track record, he cast a critical eye over the 1990s' merger mania. Notwithstanding ITT's own growth through acquisition, he took to insisting that there was nothing to be gained from yoking together businesses with varying management styles and differing levels of competence.

If you mix beef broth, lemon juice and flour, you don't get magic, you get a mess," was his parting shot to the current generation of corporate leaders. Geneen's first marriage

ended in divorce in 1946. He is survived by his second wife,

Church news

Appointments

1,

The Rev James Cox, curate, Chelmsley Wood St Andrew (Birmingham), to be team Vicar, Chelmsley Wood St Andrew (same diocese).

The Right David Evans, General Secretary, South American Mission Society, to be also honorary Assistant Bishop (Birmingham).

The Rev Jeanette Gosney. curate, Inswich St Margaret (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich). to be Chaplain, Loughborough University and Colleges (Leicester).

The Rev Gerald Hovenden, Team Vicar, Hempstead All Saints (Rochester), to be team Rector, Southborough St Peter with Christ Church and St. Manhew (same diocese).

rate, Eastham (Chester), to be priest-in-charge, Taverham St Edmund with Ringland

(Norwich). The Rev Paul Kerr, curate. Gillingham St Mark (Rochester), to be Vicar, Rochester St Justus (same diocese).

The Rev Dr Richard Major. curate, Pumey Common All Saints (Southwark), to be Chaplain, Florence St Mark (Europe).

The Rev Linda Potter, curate, Shildon St John with Eldon (Durham), to be priest-incharge, Castleside St John the Evangelist (same Diocese).

The Rev Dr David Rake, Vicar, Kenilworth St Nicholas (Coventry), to be priest in-charge, Tintagel St Mater-iana, and Bishop's adviser on The Rev David Jackson, cu- spiritual formation (Truro).

The Rev John Russell, curate, Newport Pagnell with Lathbury and Moulsoe (Oxford), to be priest-in-charge, Wing with Grove (same diocese).

The Rev James Scantlebury, Falmouth All Saints (Truro), to be Vicar, Harden St Saviour and Wilsden (Bradford). The Rev Michael Sears, with

permission to officiate (Birmingham), to be team Vicar, Solihuli St Helen (same diocese). The Rev Geoffrey Smith, Vicar. Harlow St Mary Magdalene (Cheimsford), to be Rector, Woodford St Mary

(same dincese) The Rev Andrew Spurr, curate, Stansted Mountlitchet with Birchanger and ford, to be Rector, To Farnham (Chelmsford), to be Estuary Team (Exeter).

with St Philip and St James

Vicar (same benefice). The Rev Michael Stagg, Rector, Sprowston with Beeston. and Rural Dean of Norwich North (Norwich), to be also Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral (same thocese). The Rev Martin Stephenson.

team Rector, Clarendon Park, Knighton St John the Baptist with St Michael & All Angels (Leicester), to be priest-incharge, Hall Green St Peter (same diocese). The Rev Peter Stevens, Rector, Moreton (St Nicholas) and

curate, Hordle, with special responsibility for Tiptoe St Andrew (Winchester). The Rev Malcolm Strange, Vicar, Newbury team (Oxford), to be Rector, Torridge

Woodsford with Tindeton

(Salisbury), to be honorary

HOW THE CHRISTMAS TREE CAME TO THE ENGLISH COURT

SOME PRE-VICTORIAN OCCASIONS FROM A CORRESPONDENT Although Queen Victoria and the Prince

Consurt made Christmas trees popular in England, it was not, as is generally supposed, the Prince who introduced them. Decorated trees were known at the Court of Queen Charlotte, German-born consort of King George III. In a biography of the Queen published in 1819, the year after her death, Dr. John Watkins records that she spent Christ-

mas Day 1900 "in a very pleasing manner" at Queen's Lodge, Windsor, which stood opposite the South Terrace of the Castle. "Sixty poor families had a substantial linner given them; and in the evening the children of the principal families in the neighbourhood were invited to an entertainment at the Lodge. Here among other amuting objects for the gratification of the juvenile visitors, in the middle of the room stood an immense tub with a yew tree placed

in it, from the branches of which hung bouches of sweetmeats, almouds and raisins

ON THIS DAY

December 21, 1958 经验的企业

The Christmas tree was an ancient German custom and not a Victorian introduction. It may have been a remnant of the pageants of the Middle Ages.

in papers, fruits and toys, most tastefully arranged, and the whole illuminated by small wax candles. After the company had walked round and admired the tree, each child obtained a portion of the sweets which it bore, together with a toy, and then all returned

home quite delighted.

Christmas trees were reintroduced at Court by Queen Charlotte's daughter-in-law, Queen Adelaide, a princess of Saxe-Meiningen by hirth. There were always trees at Queen Adelaide's Christmas parties. The memory of them was chrished by a child who was a guest every year. Mina Kennedy-Erskine, later

Countess of Monster, whose mother, Lady

Augusta, was a daughter of King William (V by Mrs Jordan, Mina herself was born in 1830, the year of the king's accession.

She adored her royal grandiather and his kind-hearted Queen, and when in old age she wrote "My Memories' recalled in affectionate detail those parties of her childhood. They

were held every Christmas eve in the Dragon Room at Brighton Pavilion, where Queen Adelaide used always 'no prepare an enormous Christmas tree, which was lit up with tapers, while from the boughs were hung gided fruits — apples, pears, walnuts &c. and innumerable gifts of value for her ladies and for the guests young and old".

The Christinas tree had meanwhile been introduced also by the Duchess of Kent, a Coburg princess, for her daughter's enjoy ment. At Kensington Palace on Christmas Eve. 1832, the future Queen Victoria (aged 13) wrote in her journal: "We then went into the drawing room near the dining room. After Mamma had rung a bell three times we went in. There were two large round tables on which were placed two trees hung with lights and sugar ornaments. All the presents being placed round the tree. I had one table for myself." Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg & Gotha early in 1840. The Princess Royal was born in November....

THE TIMES TODAY

Blair takes charge of welfare reform

Tony Blair faced down the threat of a Cabinet mutiny over welfare reforms by taking charge himself. Rocked by David Blunkett's attack on proposals for cutting disability benefits. the Prime Minister staged an impromptu press conference at a football ground to declare that the system was not working and had to change.

He will now chair a new ministerial group on welfare reform, taking control of a process that had been headed by Gordon Brown. .. Pages 1, 4, 21

Oxbridge students face fees threat

Students at Oxford and Cambridge universities will have to pay fees of up to £4,000 a year under plans drawn up by college bursars to renounce £35 million in state support if a government review of their funding threatens the colleges' independence ..

No Idling

Drivers who leave their engines idling at the kerb may be fined £20 under a range of new antismog laws... ... Page 1

God and mammon

A message from the Archbishop of Canterbury was broadcast to 216 Asda supermarkets as the "highlight" of a carol service held at the group's store in Gravesend. But at least one shop turned the sound down... . Page l

Church parade

More than 100 police were used to protect 200 Roman Catholic worshippers from three dozen Protestants in a Saturday night ritual in Harryville, Ballymena. The campaign of intimidation has cost the RUC £2 million ...

Killers escape

Bush bandits who ambushed and murdered a British couple in Mozambique have escaped from iail eight weeks after being given life

Skegness rules

Thousands may be heading for the ski slopes or the Caribbean; but the top Christmas destination this year is Skegness, which was booked up months ago Page 5

Cyclists killed

Two brothers and their former brother-in-law were killed in a crash with an estate car as they rode mountain bikes along an unlit country lane in Blyth,

Duchess's day

The Duchess of York begins her Christmas holiday at Sandringham basking in the unusual glow of sympathetic press coverage. The friendly interest is ascribed to a hospital appointment ___ Page 7

Man's world

Women are still heavily outnumbered by men on public bodies, especially at the ministries of defence and agriculture...... Page 8

Meningitis alert Britain is suffering its worst out-

break of meningitis for fifty years. People are advised to check any rash with a glass.... Cheaper Christmas

The cost of an "average" family Christmas has fallen by £9 to £209.50, thanks to cheaper crackers, trees and cards...... Page 10 Final conflict

The biblical site of Armageddon in Israel is to be turned into an "intellectual theme park" for the millennium. Computer technology will enable pilgrims to experience the battle between good and evil that many believe will signal the end of the worldPage il

Nuclear option

The Pentagon briefly considered launching a nuclear bomb to destroy Iraq's biological weapons, the NBC news network reported. . The bomb, developed since the Gulf War, would have been used to penetrate an underground Page 13

Princess remembered at the font

■ The names William and Harry soared in popularity... immediately after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, with Charles dipped dramatically, a survey of birth announcements in The Times shows. William appeared twice as often in otember as it did in any other month. The top names James and Olivia...



The artist Sophie Garland with her work, Indian Dream Machine, in a paddock in Kerikeri, New Zealand. The sculpture, based on a 1942 motorcycle, is made of melted plastic crystals and measures 4m high by 10m long

IMP warning: The International Monetary Fund believes that the Asian economic "contagion" will cut growth everywhere Page 48 Brenson holds fire: The launch of the Virgin One high interest savings account is to be delayed until next summer after Tesco was overwhelmed with applications for a similar account __ Page 48

Bank statement: Barclays may have been rebuffed by NatWest as a merger partner, but its chief executive Martin Taylor believes that Europe and that further mergers are inevitable.... ... Page 48

Flight of fancy: BAA has been transformed since privatisation, but has it gone too far and turned our airports into cluttered shop-.. Page 44 ping centres? .

Great help? Giles Whittell discovers the secrets of writing self-help books, while Jane Shilling analyses Page 17 their advice_ En-ohi Kathleen Simons enters a

world of conspiracy and intrigue

when she goes in search of Laa-Laa

...... Page 17

and Po...

Galliano fantasy: Cruise wear may have lost some of its cachet, but Grace Bradberry finds that the mid-season collection is catching .. Page 15 on...

Grand plan: Anjana Ahuja meets Dr Toby Clark who wants to retrace Sir Edmund Halley's quest to chart compass variations .. Page 16

Melvyn Bragg: "In 1997 I saw the perfect Fool. Michael Bryant took him on in the Richard Eyre National Theatre production and at last I believe I saw the Fool as he was meant to be.",.. Page 18 Career high: All of a sudden, the actress Helena Bonham Carter is

winning praise for her dramatic flair, especially in the forthcoming film The Wings of the DovePage 18 Fairytain revised: At the Police Thearre in south London, Philip Pullman's adaptation and Vicky Ireland's production take Puss in Boots back to its 17th-Century

roots. Jazz legend: Tomorrow night BBC2 celebrates the life of Sidney Bechet, the jazz saxophonist every-

one wanted to emulate Page 19

IN THE TIMES

ARTS James Levine conducts Mahler's Symphony of a Thousand on London

How can the Lord Chanceflor make more popular?

Football: Andy Cole scored against his former club as Manchester United restored their four-point Premiership lead by beating Newcastle 1-0Page 25

Boxing: Nascem Hamed was suitably chastened after coming through his hardest bout so far, against Kevin Kelley Page 27. Sport on television: The BBC is to televise all England and Scotland

matches in the World Cup next summer in an unprecedented retings battle with ITV......Page 26 Equestrianism: Ludger Beerbaum of Germany continued his domination of the Olympia showjumping

championships when he won the Vink Christmas Masters on Sprehe Rush On ... Selling: A member of the Innovation Kvaerner crew fell overboard

and the all-women crew on EF Education almost lost their rig in the Whitbread round-the-world Page 26

Rugby union: Brive prevailed in their drawn Heineken Cup semi-final against Toulouse because they scored more tries. They will meet Bath in the final.... Page 34

1, 2, 7, 26, 34, 38 Dond Stan, 1 16 won £224,490 for five balls and

1,169,274 won £10 for three.

THE PLANT

Preview: It's panto time at Sun Hill for The Bill (ITV, Spm) Review: Two men with a passion for Pages 46, 47 showbusiness _____

Non House

Blair's Whitelaw

Ms Harman will have to change jobs next year to make way for another figure to sell the reforms that she has set in train. To keep his deputy on side, Mr Blair may judge that his New Deal is worth moving an old friend.... Page 2i

The last Boer

Until all those involved in the conflict of the 1980s have said their piece, it will be impossible for Mr Mandela to be as free as he wishes with his power of mercy. Mr Botha should take the stand Page 21

A soft touch

Britain should look to Canada; where some provinces offer soft drinks at half-price to designated drivers who can show their car keys. Oranges and lemons cost little. They also save lives Page 21

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

I believe in ghosts, simply on the weight of evidence. I have never seen one, but I know many honest Page 20 people who have PETER RIDDELL

Politicians who talk about the "people's priorities" and "beacons" need a linguistic cold shower. By far the best corrective to such guff remains George Orwell Page 20

VERNON BOGDANOR Scottish devolution forces us to come to terms with the key question of how political societies are held together..... Page 20

Lord Kings Norton, aeronautical engineer; Juzo Itami, Japanese film-maker, Harold Geneen, American bushtesman.....

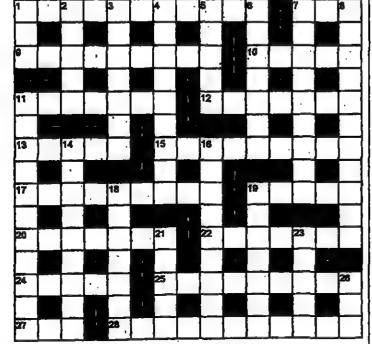
Prison education: Tory democracy: Gibraltar; Christmas presents; does Santa exist?...

The Image of Princess Diana is to Two tickets each won £12.5 million: | become copyright, like the Barble Doil. The marketing of Diana the bonus: 749 won £2.997 for five | should be controlled through the balls; 53,106 won 592 for four, and is normal procedures and safeguards of the free market — La Repubblica.

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,669



- ACROSS I Playing a fanfare, and doing so well (II).
- 7 Friend knocking back drink (3). 9 Revolver that's used to secure an admission (9).
- 10 Rant and swear like a trooper (sort of) (5).
- 11 Spectacular downfall of villain in court action (7). 12 Openings must be created for this pattern maker (7).
- 13 Highland feature it's good to see during trip (5). 15 Recruitment of leaderless men
- clined to join up (9). 17 Nothing on summit in mountain range down under (9). 19 Meadow, in part, used for fold (5).
- 20 Offering bait to entrap king in ambush (7). 22 Fellow member in firm always succeeding (7).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzie No 20,668 will appear next Saturday. The five winners

will cath

receive a £20 book token.

- 24 It's defined as "order" in English dictionary (5).
- 25 Diversion providing an essential cover for English soldiers (9).
 27 Couple in endless row (3). 28 New danger — fire wayward!
 This should improve its accuracy (11).
- DOWN I Well qualified (3).

 2 Plant found right in the centre of
- florist's (5).

 3 In the pink, go pourishment (7). 4 Tender company for Napoleon,
- perhaps (9). Plans wrongly cast aside (5). 6 Such effusive types can make good guides (?). Don't allow to copy, in plain
- language (9). 8 He used to provide illumination. in many ways (11).
- 11 Cutting short illness with initial remedy mostly on time (11). 14 Study English outside class time I fix (9).
 16 Excited cats in midst of vermin
- 18 Guide dog (?). 19 Ceremonial display, one that's uplifing in European city hit by disaster (7).

abandoned pursuit (4,5).

21 Crop runs into profit (5). 23 Correct conclusion about the writer (5). 26 Sailor's topping navigational aid

Times Two Crossword, page 48

OTIMES NEWSPAPER LIMITED, 1997. Published and printed and licensed for distributed and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd. PO Box 495. Virginia Lumdon E 1900, referabone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kitling Road, Present Merseyste 9100, neterobook 0151-546 2000, Monday, December 22, 1997. Registered as a newspaper at the company of the property of the company of the property of the company of the compa

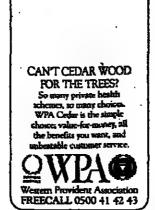


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lend, Orkney, Shetland: mostly cry
with bright spells. Light SE wind,
feshering, Max 96 (46F).

SW Scotlisne, Ginegow: cloudy,
dry, rain later, Mex 10C (50F).

N ireland: Dry at first, rain later.
Freshening SE wind. Mex 10C (50F).

Republic of Ireland: Cloudy with
prin spreading from southwest.

☐ General: most of UK will start dry
with mist and log in some sestem and
midland counties, bright spells later.
Rain may spread to most of England and
south-west. Scotland by midday. Mild,
freshening SE wind.

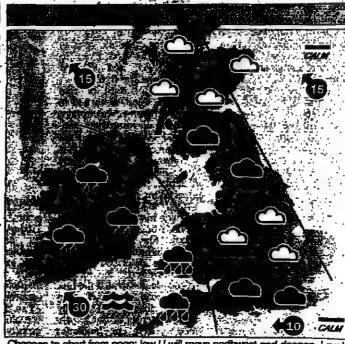
Tonight rain will spread to all areas.
West wit become drier.
☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, E
Midlands, E England, W Midlands,
Central N England, NE England:
misty and cloudy, but dry with bright
spells. Rain by evening. Moderate SE
wind. Misx 10C (SOF).
☐ Central S England. Channel Islae,

Central S England, Channel Islae, NW England, Late District, Isla of Men: doil and misty start, a few bright spells around middley, then rain later this itemoon. Moderate south-east wind.

Hepubace of investors (2009) was rain spreading from southwest.
Mild, max 9C (48F).
Outlook: More rain followed by very disturbed weather. Heavy rain and winds on Christmas Eve. After bright start Ctristmas Day will be wet and windy. ąα, 机构化物 化物 0.01 0.01 3Ž 置有等格可得特格格特格的格的的 0.01

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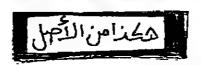
Changes to chart from noon: low U will move northwest and deepen. Low W ... will also move northwest, but with little change in central pressure

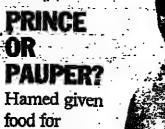


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ay: Highest day temp: Percance 13C (SSF); lowest day man; Wil

Under the weather?





thought in

PAGE 27

the Big Apple

* VIBER 22 1997 !*

AM RES MOGG

· By Grig

Page

-23 4 1.0

IN BOGDANOR I

FINAL RECKONING

Bath's fortunes revived with semi-final victory in rugby's Heineken Cup

PAGE 34



Why Hollioake should be appointed captain for the limited-overs internationals



PLUS LYNNE TRUSS In praise of star quality

PAGE 33



MONDAY DECEMBER 22 1997

UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

CHAMPIONS RIDE LUCK ON WAY TO UNDESERVED VICTOR



Striking difference: Cole wheels away in triumph after rounding off a sweeping United move by heading the only goal of the match from a pinpoint cross by Beckham. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Cole extinguishes Newcastle

SOMEHOW, now that he is scoring freely again, Andy Cole has become the personification of everything that Newcastle United have lost: Yesterday, harracked and abused by the supporters that once worshipped him; battered and bruised by the players he once ran with, the Manchester United striker gave St James Park a cruel reminder of past glories when he condemned the home side to a morale-sapping defeat

they hardly deserved. Denied twice by world-class saves from Peter Schmeichel, Newcastle had more than countered the threat of their visitors until they were undone by Cole's powerful and accurate header midway through the had scored at the Geordie shrine. since November 1994, a couple of months before Kevin Keegan shocked Tyneside by selling him to

United for E7 million. The goal, Cole's sixteenth of the season, was the final confirmation of his recovery of the predatory form that made him such a cult hero in the North East. It began to erase the memory of the 5-0 drubbing United suffered there last season and took the champions four points clear of the chasing pack at the top of the FA Carling Premiership, apparent proof of the old adage that the team that wins the title is the one that picks up points even when they do not ment

"I think we were very lucky today." Alex Ferguson, the United manager. said. "If it had not been for Gary Pallister and Peter Schmeichel we would have been beaten. It was a carcless performance. We were continuously giving the ball away and

Newcastle were very unfortunate. We played better when we lost 5-0." Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, was delighted with the commitment his team had shown. but said his enjoyment of the game had been spoilt by the antics of the United players. He singled out David Beckham for play-acting and gening Alessandro Pistone booked for an apparent lock to the United midfield-

No. of the last of



By OLIVER HOLT

er's face. "It was nowhere near his face," Dalglish said, "and that is not fair is it? It might improve his looks I suppose. The pictures do not lie, though, and if someone has done that, it will just have to be on their

There were seven bookings in a game that was bad-tempered at times but never really sank into genuine unpleasantness. It was atavistic, certainly, and Pearce and Batty, in particular, strove like men possessed. aggressive and unyielding, to try to

G Pallister, D Irwin, D Beckham

N Butt, R Johnsen, K Poborsky, E Cantonia, O Solukjeer

humble the team that is now 17 points clear of them in the race for the championship.

. Keith Gillespie, too, seemed intent on making United pay for selling him to Newcastle as part of the deal that took Cole the other way and his early runs, coupled with the industry and control of Batty at the heart of midfield, left United looking as uncomfortable as they have at any time since Derby County ran them ragged for a 20-minute period at Pride Park earlier this season.

When John Barnes, a player not renowned for his tackles, dispossessed Nicky Butt, someone who is justly famous for his, midway through the first half, it was the clearest indication possible that this was a Newcastle side itching to prove its mettle. After 24 minutes, they seemed to have taken the lead when Barnes guided a cross from Pearce inside Schmeichel's post but the United goalkeeper somehow flung

HOW UNITED LEFT NEWCASTLE IN THEIR WAKE

enchester Util were four points clear at Cite and finished the season in eighth pince

P. 32 W. 15 D. 11 L. 8 F. 53 A: 38 Pts: 56

WHAT THEY SAID

ALEX FERGUSON 1995

your medicine and go home. We can take it, we'll be okey. We

could have scored five goals ourselves, it was an unusual game

the biggest defeat of my cereer as

a manager, but I'll put it down as a blip, we'll go on from here ?

FERGUSON YILLTERDAY

We have got three points

and I think we can play better

which we didn't really deserve

When you lose 5-0, you take

KEVIN KEBGAN 1996

(Unfortunately, the League won'

opened up today, we played our way, we proved that the League can be won by attacking football 99

points to play for. But you have to hold up your hat to Alex Ferguson and

DALGLISH YESTERDAY

(I'm not very good at maths, know theres a lot of

give us more than three points for it, but I awoke yesterday to criticism, some of it from top people, about the way we are doing it. We

Played Won Drawn Lost For Against F

TOP OF TABLE

himself to his left and clawed the

The first half was rejentless. Every free kick was taken quickly, every tackle was full-blooded, every Newcastle attack was roared on by thousands of frantic voices. United weathered it all, though. Pallister was superb at the centre of defence, the rock on which the invention of Asprilla and Barnes always foun-

Gradually, Newcastle began to allow United back into the game.

ast year's team (starting line-up)

P Albert, J Beresford, R Lee,

P Beardsley, D Batty, D Ginola.

Hislop saved well from Cole after the United striker had escaped from Pearce for the first time and then Giggs struck a flerce right-foot volley

dipping just over the crossbar.

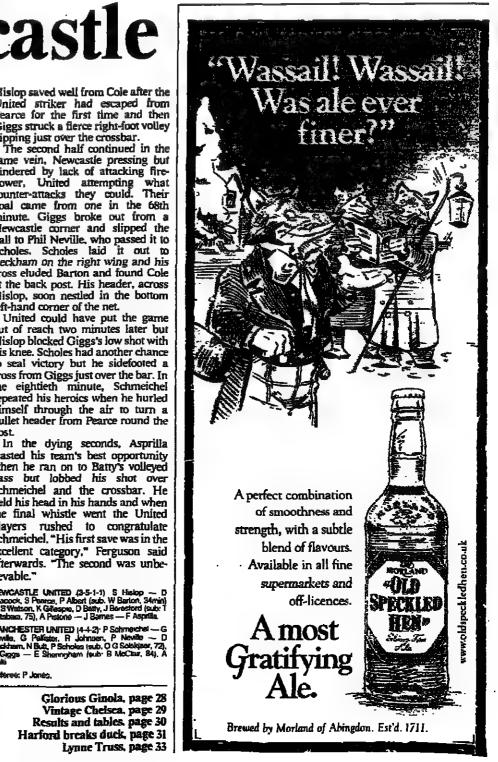
The second half continued in the same vein, Newcastle pressing but hindered by lack of attacking fire-power. United attempting what counter-attacks they could. Their goal came from one in the 68th minute. Giggs broke out from a Newcastle corner and slipped the ball to Phil Neville, who passed it to Scholes. Scholes laid it out to Beckham on the right wing and his cross eluded Barton and found Cole at the back post. His header, across Hislop, soon nestled in the bottom left-hand corner of the net.

out of reach two minutes later but Hislop blocked Giggs's low shot with his knee. Scholes had another chance to seal victory but he sidefooted a cross from Giggs just over the bar. In the eightieth minute, Schmeichel repeated his heroics when he hurled himself through the air to turn a bullet header from Pearce round the

In the dying seconds, Asprilla wasted his team's best opportunity when he ran on to Batty's volleyed pass but lobbed his shot over Schmeichel and the crossbar. He held his head in his hands and when the final whistle went the United players rushed to congratulate Schmeichel, "His first save was in the excellent category," Ferguson said afterwards. The second was unbelievable."

NEWCASTLE UNITED (3-5-1-1) S Histop — D Poscock, S Peares, P Albert (sub. W Barlott, 34min) — S'Weison, K Gillespie, D Bathy, J Barestord (sub. Ketsbaar, 75), A Pistoné — J Barres — F Asprilla. MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — G Neville, G Palfister, R Johnson, P Neville — D Beddham, N Butt, P Scholes (sub. O G Sobilpae, C) R Gegge — E Sherropham (sub: B McClair, 84). A

Glorious Ginola, page 28 Vintage Cheisea, page 29 Results and tables, page 30 Harford breaks duck, page 31 Lynne Truss, page 33



Royle is

favourite

for job at

FOOTBALL: Joe Royle

Hawthorns

has emerged as favourite to

position at West Bromwich

fill the vacant managerial

Albion (Richard Hobson

writes). The Nationwide

League first division club

are preparing to interview five candidates today and

tomorrow with David Pleat,

Bruce Rioch, Denis Smith

and Wim van Hanegem, the former Holland midfield

player, also in contention.

Hanegem, an experienced

coach in Holland, would

imaginative choice, Royle,

who left Everton by mutual

consent last March, better

meets the criteria laid down by Tony Hale, the Albion

chairman. Royle was manager of the Oldham Athletic side that reached the

working on limited resources.

Smith to decide

Wichelle

Smith, the triple Olympic gold medal-winner from

Ircland, will probably swim

the 800 metres freestyle at the world championships in

100 metres freestyle at the grand prix meeting in Bordeaux today. After

finishing second in the 200 metres individual medley

in 2min 26.39sec yesterday,

Smith said: "That wasn't

as good as I hoped." She

injured her neck in a car

crash seven weeks ago.

Parry power

E COUP Craig Parry, of

Australia, maintained his

recent run of form when

Oueensland vesterday.

he won the Coolum Classic in

Parry went round in 70, 68, 71

and 67 for a 12-under-par total of 276 to beat Robert

Allenby, his compatriot, by

Sculthorpe bid

Paul Sculthorpe, 20, the Great Britain forward, from

Warrington in a £350,008 deal. The clubs have agreed a deal which involves cash.

Corbett's title

cruiserweight title by the

narrowest of margins on

Norton, of Birmingham,

11812-118 at the Maysfield

Leisure Centre, Belfast

ATHLETICS: Liam

won the old boys'

Saturday, outpointing Rob

Bolsum's treble

Bolsum, of Dulwick College,

for the third year running, in

a record time of 26min

E SOXING: Darren

Corbett retained his.

Commonwealth

RUGEY LEAGUE: SI

and players.

Perth. Australia, next month. Smith said that she

mould make a final decision after swimming the

top flight in 1991 despite

Although Van

represent the most

BASKETBALL

Bears pay for their defensive weakness

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THE dismay of missing out on a place in the Sainsbury's Classic Cola national cup final will stay with Birmingham Bullets until well into next year. But while there is still a Budweiser League title at stake and the possibility of progress in the Uni-Ball Trophy, the Bullets will not be feeling sorry for sibility of progress in the

Only three days after losing their cup semi-final to Thames Valley Tigers by a single point on aggregate, the Bullets were back in the winning groove on Saturday. Worthing Bears, rehabilitating after a mid-season financial drama, were the team to suffer. Even though a bruised retina continues to keep Tony Dorsey out, the Bullets were good value for a 102-87 victory that took them to the top for the first time this season.

The Bears paraded Greg Francis for the first time. Offensively, the American guard was excellent, contributing 31 points, including five three-pointers, but a lack of resolution in defence prevent-ed his debut from being a total success. The Bullets exploited the weakness with both Nigel Lloyd and Reggie Kirk collecting 23 points for the visitors from the back court, one more than H. L. Coleman, who, in Dorsey's absence, has responded to the extra demands required of him under the boards.

Leading 46-36 at the inter-val, the Bullets made their decisive move in a 13-0 onslaught. The story was much the same at Wembley Court last night, when the Bears were overwhelmed 97-63 by the London Towers, whose second-quarter burst of 26-7 took them well clear. With Francis scoring only four points, his fellow newcomer. Joel Burns, assumed the scoring responsibility by adding to his is against the Bullets with another 20. Martin Gottfried (23 points) was top scurer for the Towers.

With a game in hand on the Towers, the Bullets are in a healthy position and it will be healthier still once Dorsey returns, probably against the Leopards on January 4.

is fading after their 107-99 defeat on Friday away to Thames Valley Tigers, who managed to repeat their cup quarter-finals success over the double-winners of last season. The Leopards made up 17 points to lead by three, yet still succumbed to their fifth eague reverse.

It is not a record that dampens the spirits of the Leopards' joint-owner, Ed Simons. "We haven't relinquished out grip on the title yet." he said. "Any team in the top eight can beat any other team and I can see a club winning the title with as many as ten losses.

Leicester Riders, who are Thames Valley's cup final opponents in Sheffield on January 17, also maintained the good work, leaving the bottom club. Watford Royals. still without a league win.

Results, page 38

BBC throws down World Cup gauntlet

THE BBC intends to televise all England and Scotland matches in the World Cup finals in France next summer, which will pitch the Corporation into an unprecedented head-to-head battle for viewers with ITV.

Although the two terrestrial channels are in gentlemanly negotiations, which were ex-pected to lead to them alternating the group matches as they have in the past, the BBC is now determined to show that it remains a force to be reckoned with in football coverage. Like its presenter, Gary Lineker, the BBC is "no longer Mr Nice Guy".

The BBC is making the decision because it knows that when it goes head-to-head with ITV it invariably attracts two thirds of the viewing audience. When England met West Germany in the 1990 World Cup semi-finals, 25.2 million watched the game, the largest audience in the history of British television. Some 16.7 million of that number were tuned in to the BBC.

battle for viewers in France next year BHC sources say that ITV will have the option of either stepping away from the six England and Scotland pool

matches or suffering another

The move by the BBC negotiators, Jonathan Martin, controller of TV sport, and Niall Sloane, head of football, will revive the sagging morale of their team, including their leading presenter, Desmond Lynam, and the commentators, John Motson and Barry increasingly frustrated at losing so much of the national

game to Sky and ITV. The recent move of Brian Barwick, the BBC head of sport, to ITV was symptomatic of the malaise.

Davies, who has reported every World Cup since 1970, aid last week: "In the light of all the football we've lost, this is a golden opportunity just to. remind people what we're capable of doing — and how well we can cover the sport. . "It would be a huge boost to

John Goodbody reveals Corporation -

plans to engage ITV in a head-on

motivate a department which for years set the standard and which has been made to feel like the poor relations." This season, the BBC is showing none of the three domestic tournaments live, being restricted to Match of

Day highlights on

For the first time, ITV is screening the FA Cup Final live and exclusively, so ending 60 years of BBC coverage of the game's premier cup competition. Sky will screen around 200 matches live this season, including internationals, Premiership games and Football League fixtures.



ITV, which has increasingly had a policy of "cherry-picking"when covering sport, willbe incensed at the BBC's planned action because it has been preparing sponsorship of its coverage of the World

Cup, which begins on June 10

Brazil's game against

Scotland and finishes on July

and ITV are both members of the European Broadcasting Union, which has the continental rights to the tourna32-nation competition. In the past, they have

alternated the pool games and have only gone into direct opposition later in the tournament, because it was felt viewers had so little in the way of alternatives, However, with the launch of Channel 5, there are now three other channels available to most of the public.

The BBC feels that, given the unprecedented interest in the event, it is entitled to show all the group matches, begin-ning with the game between Scotland and the defending champions.

Unlike some previous tournaments, few of the games have the same kick-off times. which will allow many European television viewers to see most matches live. England have one afternoon and two evening kick-offs in their preliminary group, while Scot-land have two afternoon matches and one in the evening.

TV action replay, page 33

EQUESTRIANISM: EUROPEAN CHAMPION ENJOYS LUCK OF THE DRAW TO COMPLETE THIRD VICTORY

Beerbaum scales new heights in Olympia mastery

BY JENNY MACARTHUR Beerbaum asked for fence

No 1 to be raised, as he had

done in each round. "It was

the easiest fence with the

heaviest, deepest cups," he

said. It now stood at 5ft 7in - a

daunting size for a first fence

who had been specially aimed at this class "because he is

careful and scopey", according.

to Beerbaum, comfortably

negotiated it. Jumping effort-

lessly over the rest of the huge

course, Beerbaum punched

the air with delight at the

finish. "I felt sorry for Mich-

ael," he said. "My horse was"

jumping very carefully but I needed the luck of the draw to

However, Sprehe Rush On.

any standards.

LUDGER BEERBAUM, already the winner of the Volvo World Cup qualifier and the UPS Christmas Puissance. continued his domination of the Olympia showjumping championships yesterday when he and Sprehe Rush On won the Vink Christmas Masters after an exhilarating display of jumping in front of a capacity crowd of 6,500.

"It's unbelievable — things are going so well," Beerbaum, the European champion, said after his victory, which added £15,500 to the £25,000 car he won with PS Priamos in the qualifier and the £3,700 with Alex in the puissance event.

The German's triumph came at the expense of Michael Whitaker, of Great Britain, on Virtual Village Ashley. He clear in the fourth and final jump-off when several of the six fences stood at 5ft 5in.

Under the rules of the winner-takes-all competition, each rider chooses one fence to be raised before his round. If he Jumps clear, the prize-money goes up by £500, but if more than one is faultless in the final round, it is the last rider to jump clear who wins. Four borses reached the final jump-off. Whitaker, drawn first, completed a superb clear round with Ashley, who made light of the huge Sft Sin wide oxer at fence No 2. When his older brother, John, on Virtual Village Grannusch. dropped out of contention at the double, followed by Willi Melliger, the Swiss Olympic silver medal-winner, who incurred four faults on Domina at fence No 4, only Beerbaum, the 1992 Olympic champion, stood between Michael Whit-aker and £15,500.

There was little luck involved in the German's stylish win on Priamos in the World Cup qualifier on Saturday. Olympia, with nine out of the top ten riders in the world rankings competing, was always destined to be one of the hardest to win of the 16 qualifiers, and so it proved.

On a different occasion, the two superb rounds on Nuistra the runner-up, Peter harles, the former European champion, would have been good enough, but Beerbaum is in superb form and Charles's performance provided an add-

ed spur. Nine went clear over Bob Ellis's acclaimed course in the opening round. Surprisingly. Geoff Billington, on It's Otto, who finished in third place, was the only Briton. John Whitaker, the bookmakers favourite, had four faults on

Virtual Village Grannusch, his top horse, Welham, having been kept out of the competi tion with a minor leg injury.

Of the other leading Britons, Michael Whitaker, on Two Step, hit the big spread fence at No 10. Nick Skelton retired on Virtual Village Zaiza after incurring eight faults and Robert Smith, whose top horse, Tees Hanauer, is also injured, had 12 faults on Senator For The Best.

in the jump-off, Charles. meeting every fence on a. perfect stride on his outstanding young horse, set the standard with a clear round in 39.60sec, but Beerbaum, going - and riding Priamos increased confidence after their win in the Berlin Grand Prix last month - cut Irishman's time.

"He has a big heart when against the clock." rbaum said of his 15-yearold horse, which he started riding 18 months ago.

Billington, the last to go, took John Whitaker's advice to "go carefully" to the wide oxer at sence No 2 too literally and, going wide to the fence, used up vital seconds. "From then on I was always struggling," the ever-cheerful Billington

The disappointing performances mean that Smith, who was fifth in Brussels and Berlin and sixth in Amsterdam, remains the only Briton in the top 20 of the World Cup rankings, from which the top 19 quality for the final in Helsinki in April. John Whitaker, who has qualified for every World Cup final except one since the competition started in 1979, is trailing in joint 55th place.



Beerbaum, the German who has been in superb form, in action yesterday . -

Man washed overboard in rough seas

SAILING: WOMAN SWINGS HIGH ABOVE DECK LIKE A PENDULUM IN DRAMATIC RACE TO SYDNEY

THE Whithread Round the World Race fleet was yesterday "rock-hopping" up the southeast coast of Australia to an expected finish to leg three at Sydney today, after a rough passage through the Bass Strait, which saw a man overboard on Innovation Kvaerner and the all-women crew on EF Education coming close to losing their rig.

The drama on Kvaerner

happened as the fleet finally came together with the northeramost boats and those to the south converging on the en-trance to the Strait on Saturday night. Kvaerner and Swedish Match were the only hoats to leave King Island to port, at the western entrance, where crews encountered a nasty swell.

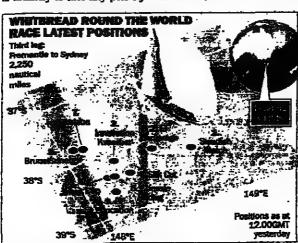
Fearing for the safety of his weakened rig, as Kvaerner pounded upwind in about 24 knots of breeze, Knut Frostad. the skipper, ordered a sailchange at around midnight to slow the boat. Alby Pratt, an Australian sailmaker on board, was among those who went on the foredeck to hand the sail, but was washed overboard, forcing Frostad to drop all his canvas and turn the engine on.

Pratt, who had a strobe light on his foul weather tacket, was swiftly recovered unharmed.

By EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

The quick response from the for using her engine to recover crew and the practice we had a man overboard, which is done prior to the Whitbread allowed for in the sailing instructions. Frostad was remade it possible to recover him in just seven minutes. quired to return to the spot Frostad reported. "We were all where he switched the engine very happy to have Alby back on before hoisting his sails on board - he was in good again and to have resealed the shape and he stayed calm during the whole manoeuvre.' Officials at race headquarters confirmed that Kvaerner

engine controls and photographed them to comply with The incident delayed Kvaerner, but not much. In is unlikely to face any penalty



DISTANCE TO FINISH (at 12.003AT yearanday, with miles to Sychrey): 1 Swedish Match (Swe) 307.5 miles; 2, EF Language (Swe) 311.4; 3 Innovation (Waemer (Nor) 320; 4, Silk Cur (GB) 320.6; 5, Chassin Flacing (US) 325.3; 6, Merit Cup (Monato) 325.4; 7, Toehiba (US) 325.8; 8 BrunelSunergy (Holf) 327 8; 9, EF Education (Swe) 335.7.

the end, her southerly course towards the Strait paid off.

bringing her back to the fleet in the top three and, even after stopping briefly, she was still in third place behind Paul Cayard, on EF Language, and Gunnar Krantz, on Swedish Match. On the all-women boat, one

crisis quickly developed into another. Not far from where Frostad had got into difficulies, the women were getting lifted round the northen end o King Island. They were hard on the wind and had enough leverage to avoid a tack, which was just as well because had

they done so, they would have

brought their mast down.

While tidying up the hal-yards after a sail change, Lisa Charles and Marieen Cleyndert spotted that the leeward checkstay and starboard runner had come off the mest and were being held aloft by nothing more than bungy cord. In rough conditions, with the boat slamming in a short sea, Leah Newbold was sent up the rig. As she was being hauled up past the top spreader - about 70ft above the deck - she lost her grip on the mast.

Her skipper, Christine Guillou, said: "She swung

into the rig a couple of times like a human pendulum, hanging completely upside down in her harness at one

Bruised and shaken, Newbold was retrieved and Bridget Suckling went up in her place to refasten the wayward terminals. The women lost several miles in the process and can rightly feel frustrated to be running last, eight miles behind BrunelSunergy, in eighth place at the end of an upwind leg, when they have given the lower-ranked male boats a real run for their

With 300 miles left to sail, the fleet was still tightly bunched as the crews encountered light airs inshore on their way to Sydney. Krantz, farthest offshore, was leading from Cayard, just 1.9 miles astern of him, with a gap of eight miles to Kvaerner in third place. Silk Cut, in fourth place, has come back from falling into sixth position overnight and is now only 0.6 miles behind Kwaerner, but with the field so tightly entangled, the podium places were still very much up for

The leader is expected to cross the line by Sydney Opera House this morning.

Whitelaw hoping for world glory as top Canadian

GREG RUSEDSKI eat your heart out (David Rhys Jones writes). The tennis-playing Canadi-an's well-documented transatiantic exchange has been emulated, in reverse, by a Zi-year-old Scot, George Whitelaw, who will represent Canada in the Saga world indoor bowls championships at Preston next month. Whitelaw, who lives in Stonehouse, near

Glasgow, won the Scottish outdoor singles championship in 1993, but failed to catch the eye of his national selectors and came up with an audacious and alternative plan.

Although he is a Scot through and through, he was born in Canada and possesses a Canadian passport - so he joined the Aurora bowls club in Ontario and entered the Canadian championship this winter.

Most places go to provincial champions, but Lawn Bowls Canada keep six places for the winners of an allcomers competition. Whitelaw duly earned his wild-card place, then emerged from a strong 32-person field last week to win the title.

His reward was an automatic place at Preston, where he will wear the colours of his adopted country, and will partner Noel Kennedy of Hoog Kong, in the pairs.

If he survives his first round singles

encounter with the No II seed, Rowan Brassey, of New Zealand, he could face his fellow Scot, David Gourlay, the 1996 world champion, for a place in the quarter-finals.

Dan Wolfenden, the executive director of

Lawn Bowls Canada, said: "George played it by our rules and is a worthy champion. He's a talented player who has won people around by his skill and demeanour."

Bryant rolls back the years to run

ALTHOUGH he was beaten 15-8 by Andy-Thomson in the semi-finals of the revived Saga International Masters at Thornaby yesterday.

David Bryant, of Clevedon, stole the show with a display that reminded spectators of the days when he was the sport's undisputed leading man (David Rhys Jones writes).

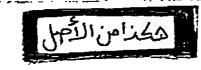
It is 15 years since the Masters was last

his rivals close

played but, in the 1970s, when it was called the Teesside Masters, it was one of the biggest tournaments on the calendar. Bryant dominated the event for 12 years, winning it more often than not. Now 66 and playing strictly for fun, he showed that a good tune can indeed be played on an old fiddle, coming through his ' round robin with three wins in three matches.

That set Bryant up for a nostalgic encounter with Norma Shaw — whom he played many times in the 1970s and 1980s — who enjoys a similar reputation among women bowlers to his own in the men's game. Although Shaw, who won the world indoor singles title last April, has beaten most of the top male bowlers of her generation, she was never beat Bryant. but here, out of the blue, was her chance. Shaw led 6-4 after five ends but Bryant tightened his grip, allowing her only three singles over the next ten ends as he piled up four singles, two

doubles and a treble to win, 15-9. Bryant dropped the first ten shots against ... Thomson but replied defiantly with a fullhouse, before he gave best to the Anglo-Scot. In the final. Thomson was caught by Glenn Skipp, the local hope, at 12-12, but moved up a gear over the last two ends to win 15-12.



THE TIMES MONDAY DECEMBER 22 1997

Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, finds a champion with cause for concern

هكذامن الإمل

Hamed is forced to learn his lesson

away on two weeks holiday in the United States, well deserved after his exertions outside the ring and in it to win recognition here. By the time he returns home to Sheffield, no doubt he will have got yover the fright he received in his bout with Keyin Kelley, of New York, at Madison Square Garden on Friday, but it is to be hoped that he will not have forgotten the lessons learnt from that contest.

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Never mind that he stopped Kelley in the fourth round, the fact that Hamed himself was dropped three times was a matter for concern to himself and his backers. Yesterday, Harned was a suit-

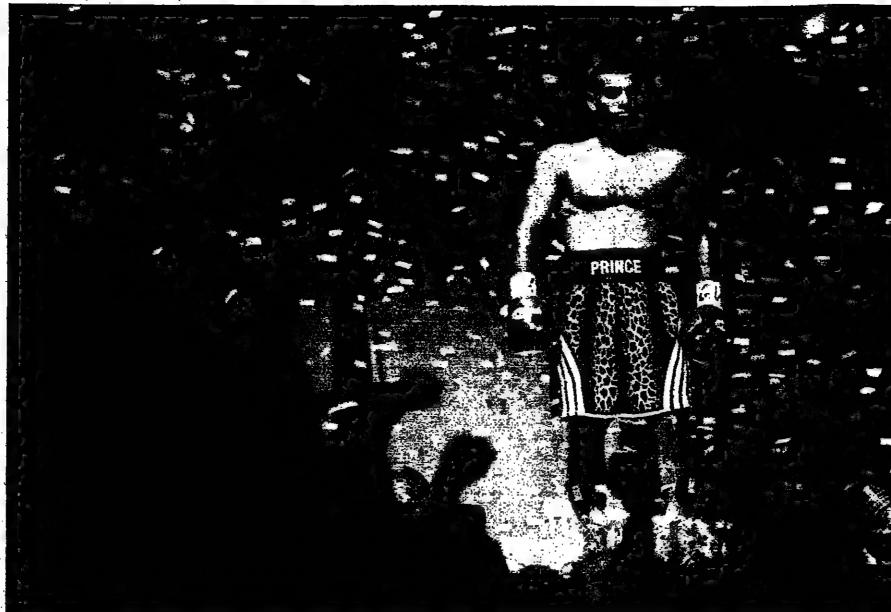
ably chastened and wiser man as a result of that experience. His friends and admirers were not as aggressively upbeat as usual. They had suffered palpitations and were thankful that Hamed carried the punch to save their blushes and the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) featherweight title. There was little doubt that without that knockout punch he would have been heaten as he was being outboxed and outpunched by the 30-year-old former world champion.

It was refreshing to hear Hamed admit that his performance was not all that it should have been. "I deserved to be criticised for fighting the way I did," he said. "But you must admit it was exciting stuff and I actually enjoyed it. But I realise if I go on fighting like this I will get into trouble. I was disappointed with myself and getting hit the way. I did. I must not let it happen again. I must remember to keep my head down and my hands up.

"Surprisingly, I didn't feel as confident in the Garden as I thought I would have been. I had trouble with my entrance. I would have been much happier in Sheffield or London. At least I proved I have a good chip and the heart of a lion and give value for money.

Despite what anyone says, I am still a winner. Kelley caught me with some terrific shots. I was shaken and stimmed, but I was able to take his shots and he could not take mine. It was as simple as that."

Frank Warren, Hamed's oromoter, after berating British boxing writers for criticising Hamed's flaws, admitted that the champion's performance had left him with. his heart in his mouth. We are doing 90 per cent of the right things as far as his career is concerned; ten per cent last night was him throwing it all out of the window. If square in front of people, of course... I shouldn't think he is going to



The Madison Square Garden crowd is in uproar as Hamed makes a ticker-tape entrance for the contest in a blaze of lights. Photograph: John Dunn

fight like that. He went in to trade and excite the crowd and threw caution to the winds."

Warren said that after the weighin Hamed and Kelley had agreed not to run and to test each other's chins. It was Harned's chin that first felt the pain. How undignified to find himself on the floor after the fanciful entrance. Hamed was down again in the second, but he decked Kelley. In the third, Hamed boxed on the retreat but once again touched the floor in the fourth before taking control and knocking

mance, two interpretations can be put on it. One, that Hamed was exposed as a flawed fighter and that his chin and botting are not sound enough to see him through against quality opponents yet to come. If a 30-year-old former champion well past his best can prove too quick for Hamed and expose his deficiencies, what would he do with a young ambitious. fighter with a good chin? At the moment, the division is a weak one and there is little prospect of such a man emerging in the immediate future but for a man who has

his publicist would have you The other view is quite the

opposite that Hamed proved he has a good chin and can get up and take control without getting flus-tered. The performance should be seen as an aberration. His heart and punching power is enough to establish him as one of the world's leading boxers. The New York papers were

generally kind to Harned but did not give him critical acclaim. One or two did comment that he still has Whatever the reason for aspirations to be a great fighter, the claim he is destined to be a legend. What the public want. To see tell, but this is his time, we have got tees the 23-year-old from Sheffield a Hamed's disappointing perform future does not look bright as The Daily News said: "He came in fighters going down and getting to enjoy it while it's here."

like Kid Confetti and fought like Kid Counterfeit, Prince? Naseem Hamed was on his way to being as successful as George III in this country. He won but he did not conquer." The Daily Post said: "He's no Willie Pep," and reported Kelley as saying: "I've got to tell you he's no Roy Jones."

Pep, one of the greatest featherweights of all time, watched the bout in his home in Connecticut. He said Hamed was too easy to hit, a fault he had to correct if he wants to progress. "He's got a good punch

up." But Pep. who had 242 contests and won 230 of them before being given his status of greatness, added: "Really he should not be getting hit like that, that's how six-round fighters fight." Larry Merchant, the HBO com-

mentator, was more positive. "I didn't think Hamed was seriously hurt and was off balance much of the time. Sometimes the arrogance of youth finds itself sitting on the canvas but when he got right back up again and did his stuff, it showed he's a real fighter. What

I find myself leaning towards the second interpretation of the contest. Harned should be given a chance to put the performance behind him. He can do it, providing he does not tighten up his boxing but loosens it up and moves back to his own

distinctive style.

Hamed's chin did cause some concern but he should be able to keep it out of harm's way if he stops trying to box and goes back to the Brendan Ingle school of boxing-Herol Graham, who also had the same style as Hamed, got himself into trouble trying to box and fight but when he went back to what Ingle had taught him he was on

top.

That long spearing jab that Hamed throws from afar would almost certainly see him through in a bout with Arturo Gatti, the tough Canadian. If he boxes Gatti in the traditional manner. Hamed will get knocked out. That contest has yet to be arranged. And it could take place during Wimbledon fortnight in London. A win over Gatti would certainly put Harned on the road to recognition.

n the meantime, it would be to Hamed's credit and advan-tage, certainly when in the United States to stop comparing himself with great men such as Muhammad Ali and Pep, Sandy Saddler and Henry Armstrong. Hamed's new-found knowledge about the frailties of his central nervous system could help him to realise that before reaching the status of the greats, he must match up to the achievements of lesser champions like Salvador Sanchez. Alex Arguello, Azumah Nelson, Wilfredo Gomez, Eusebio Pedroza.

From the point of view of entertainment and excitement, Hamed was an unqualified success. The Garden has not seen such a night for a long time. It was the highest grossing featherweight contest, taking \$800,000 (about £500,000) from more than 11,000 people at the gate. Among the celebrities were the film stars Pierce Brosnan, Hugh Grant, Liam Neeson and Daniel Day-Lewis. As Merchant said: "People will be talking about this fight for a long time. Hamed's zany antics and high-wire act without a net makes him exciting to watch."

Harned has brought the lighter divisions into focus and, just as Ali was responsible for bringing big purses to the heavyweight division, so Hamed can be thanked by his opponents for paydays that can

SIX OF THE BEST: HOW THE PRINCE COMPARES WITH THE KINGS

Saddler

Titles: world loutive

Nelson

(Ghana)

Born: July 19, 1956

(US)



Hamed is able to smile again after flooring Kelley



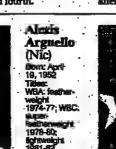
One of the greatest. Considered the best pure boxer of all time. Very difficult to hit. Had four



Pcp (US)

Bom; Sapt 19, 1922

classic encounters with Sandy Saddler at Madison Square Garden in 1948 and 1949, Yankee Stadium in 1950, Polo Grounds in 1951. Suddler won first, third and fourth.



One of the most polished performers of the division, this Nicaraguan boxed with a beautiful upright style, and had an array of straight punches that could find the target singly or in clusters. A gentleman in the ring and outside it.



Archerval of Wille Pep. At 5th 8½ in, Saddler was tall for a featherweight and combined his physical advantages with fierce bitting power. Renowned for his grasp of the dirtier aspects of boding. He retired in 1957 while still champion after sustaining injuries in a car crash.



The resilient, ageless African has proved himself a warrior through and through. A stalking type of fighter, slow but relentless, who could cut down the ring effectively. A big purcher with both hands, but particularly effectively with the control of the contro



Tough, uncompromising, forward-moving boxer, who allowed opponents little respite forward-moving the top. Knocked out by Azumah Nelson in II rounds in 1984, but came back to win his third title at a different weight a year later.

(P Rico)

Bom: Oct. 29, 1958 Titles: WBC: superweight 1977-40, leather

weight 1964; WBA, ju-trior-lightweigh 1965-86

Hamed

Dite: WBO teatherweigh champ 1995-presen

(GB)



Can box southpaw or orthodox. Claims to be able to box in five different ways. Difficult to hit because of excellent reflexes, can hit from any angle going back or forward. Considered by some to be the hardest puncher, pound-for-



The champion is rocked by Kelley in the second round

SKIING: AUSTRIAN SURVIVES STEEP AND DAMAGED COURSE TO RECORD SECOND WORLD CUP VICTORY OF HIS CAREER

Mayer plays game of risk

ITTOOK a four-year wait and a let of hard work for Christian Mayer to win in the World Cup giant slalom at Alta Badia in Italy yesterday. The 25-year-old skier had to handle a damaged, tricky course, defeat a world champion and hold off the strongest squad on the men's circuit his Austria team-mates.

Mayer recorded the fastest time in the first run and took all the risks in the second, down the steep Gran Risa course to achieve the second World Cup victory in his career. His only previous triumph was in a giant slalom at Val d'Isère in 1993.

Mayer beat the world giant statom champion. Michael von Grünigen, of Switzerland, by 0.43 seconds as he led an impressive showing of Austrian akiers, who mok seven of the top eight places. The BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

Austrians also swept the five top places in a World Cup downhill at Beaver Creek last month.

Mayer was the last of 30 second-run starters, in reverse order of the first-heat finishers, and competed on a deteri-

orating course marred by bumps, holes and some parts of soft snow. He nearly missed a gate in the upper part of the track, made some acrobatics to make the next part and completed the race in the combined time

of 2min 20.97sec. "I risked everything." he said. "I knew I could go out but I still pushed hard."

Von Grünigen, who had two wins in the three previous giant slaloms, came second in 221.40. The Austrian rising star, Hermann Maier, came third and strengthened his lead in the World Cup standings with a total of 489 points after ten races. "I never found the proper rhythm," he said.

Alberto Tomba, of Italy. who had climbed to sixth place in the first run after starting as No 19, lost his balance, straddled a gate and fell midway through the second run. His failure disappointed the home crowd, dreaming of his first giant slalom victory since

The losers yesterday, inchuding Tomba, have a quick opportunity for revenge in the slalom at Madonna di Campiglio today, the last World Cup race before the Christmas holiday.



Mayer recording the fastest time on the first run before his acrobatics and daring on the second sealed his victory over Von Grünigen in the giant slalom yesterday

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Leeds look to reserves as booking tally rises



LEEDS UNITED 2 BOLTON WANDERERS 0 By Richard Hobson

IN A quiet corner outside the players' lounge, Robert Molenaar spoke of the way Leeds United embrace the passing game. He explained how Eddie Gray, the coach, encouraged him to hone his skills in training. Such aesthetics seemed strangely out of place after such a joyless contest — but then Molenaar was talking about the reserve side.

The "second team", as Molenaar called them, sit atop the Pontin's League, rather confirming the feeling that Howard Wilkinson bequeathed to George Graham, his successor as manager, some of the country's most promising teenagers. For the present, the senior side is characterised by more

The fine goals by Ribeiro and Hasselbaink were out of context with the general mediocrity and tedium but they took Leeds's total for the season to 28, to equal the return for the entire 1996-97 campaign. Progress, indeed.

Just as pertinent is the statistic that Leeds have conceded more than 30 per cent more fouls than any other side in the Premiership. Bookings now total 46 after Robert son. Wetherall, Hasselbaink and Hopkin had their names taken here. Suspensions will soon begin to bite, for although Molenaar proved an adequate replacement for Radebe, the cover in other areas

remains largely untested. Graham insisted again that Leeds are not a dirty side. "Many of the bookings were just silly," he said. This will become a familiar mantra. Three times in the first half players went eyeball-to-cyeball with their opponents and, while there was no suggestion of malice, then some challenges were belated to say the least. Fewer 50-50 situations would arise if Leeds passed more accurately, although Bolton Wanderers, who also had four players booked, were little

It is small wonder that Graham should describe himself as day ensured that Leeds reach the halfway stage of the season in fourth place in the FA Carling Premiership. "We are much higher than I expected. We are progressing nicely," Graham said.

Molenzar added: "One of the basics of the game is to work hard and compete and if the ball is there to be won then make sure you win it. Any team that comes to Elland Road will try the same, but are they better at it than us? That is the question." The answer, emphatical-

ly, is "no". To talk of the table offering a misleading impression so far into a season is, well, misleading. Equally, there are certain clubs where potential is more obviously unrealised, and Leeds are not one of those. "It is not realistic to think we can win the championship," Molenaar said, "We have be lucky a few times and there will be games where that luck does not go

Had Blake not directed a free header from eight yards so close to Martyn in the 48th minute then Bolton might have left with at least a point. As it was, Ribeiro beat Ward from 30 yards with a thumping volley after 67 minutes and Hasselbaink, having turned Fairclough, curled a shot inside the far post with nine minutes remain-

ing.
"Leeds are very physical, and why not?" Jamie Pollock, the Bolton midfield player, said. They are fourth in the league and they haven't got there without playing that type of game and working hard. I don't feel they overstepped the mark. They got stuck in and we got stuck in. There were some harsh challenges, but that's English football.

"We felt they had run out of ideas and then came the killer blow. But they are not in the same class as Manchester United and Chelsea yet. Teams coming here will think they have a chance." They will also leave nursing bruises.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N Martyn — G Hafle, D Wertherall, R Moleman, D Robertson — G Kelly, A1 Haaland, D Hopkin (sub: L Bower, 78mm), B Ribero — J F Hasselbark, R Wellace BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2), G Ward — G Bergason, C Fairclough, A Todd, J Philips — M. Johansen (sub F Cerr, 75), J Politok, P Francisen, S Setars — P Beard Sey, N Blake

Frenchman repays faith of his newly found best friend

Flamboyant Ginola imposes a luxury tax on Barnsley





TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 3 BARNSLEY 0 By Matt Dickinson

THERE are some things to which it appears impossible to remain dispassionate, which inspire loving and loathing in seemingly equal, and extreme, measure. The Spice Girls, the Teletubbies and Manchester United are undoubtedly three. David Ginols, without

question, is another.
Gifted genius or lazy luxury?
With Tottenham Hotspur's maverick star you pay your money and you take your choice, and Satur-day provided more fuel for the ie summed up on Match of the Day recently, when Des Lynam claimed that he would pick II Ginolas and Alan Hansen, ever the sceptic, said he would not even bother with one.

That the Francophiles won this battle is beyond doubt, Ginola scoring two goals and orchestrating the victory that kept Tottenham off the foot of the FA Carling

His detractors, however, will point to the moments of self-indulence, the occasional theatrical dives and, as one wag put it, his attempt on the world back-heel record in the final minutes, arguing that while this was a good day, the Spurs fans will have to suffer as many that are bad.

There are few doubters among the Tottenham supporters at present, however, and it is a faith that appears to be shared by the first casualty of Christian Gross's spartan regime, even though be had been the club's best performer in the opening weeks of the season. Ginola has instead turned out to be the new coach's touchstone.

Like Faustino Asprilla and Kenny Dalglish at Newcastle. Ginola and Gross appear to have fallen for each other against all expectations, an attraction of opposites or tence.

Ginola, though, claimed that it is the real thing. "I saw that people were trying to put pressure on us from the start, saying that my way of training or feelings about football were different from him," he said. "But my relationship with Christian has been good from the



Leese is grim-faced after another bad day at the office, when Tottenham put three goals past him

same as most of the teams over Europe, from France to Spain to Italy. It is normal to spend a couple of afternoons and work on other aspects of your game. I am

"You have to realise that foot-

adverts on TV, say, if I was not a footballer first. I love the game, I love to win and I am always confident. The only moment when I'm not is when I am injured or away from the pitch. That is what

thing else. I would not have the game, I went out and saw all the people in the stand, the ball and the grass and I said what a fanstic job it is that we do."

It was a poetic response to match what had gone before, Ginola at the heart of everything

much of the time, came a close second for man of the game with his perpetual motion, but it was the Frenchman who, in his own inimitably arrogant way, caught

He was aided by a performance from Barnsley that, for the first half an hour at least, was as bad as anything they have produced this season. Yes, that had. For the first goal after five minutes, the back three moved out with all the syncronicity of a group of office staff staggering from the firm's Christ-

mas party, leaving Nielsen onside for a simple finish. It was 2-0 after 12 minutes when Ginola's shot from the edge of the area crept under Leese's body, and those who had turned up hoping to revel in Spurs' misfortune were ading for the exits soon after when Ginola scored his second with his head. It was a feat that, hanks to a pre-match bet, earned

Football is my life, I love the game; what a fantastic job it is that we do'

him a boiffe of vintage champagne.

It would be dangerous to draw long-term conclusions from either Tottenham's or Ginola's perfor-manor after a match when Barmley were simply happy to lose by three. The pressing style that Gross is encouraging, with the likes of Fox, Girola and Sinton told to defend from the front, is taking shape but it needs to be put to the test. Barnsley hardly even

We didn't deserve to take anything from the game," Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, said. "I've got to believe that we can stay up, but not playing like that. After three quick goals like that, obviously it is in the back of your mind you could get another big defeat, but I think Spurs took their foot off the pedal. They like they did in the first half. But we shot ourselves in the foot." TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-42): I Walker

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: (4-4-2): Wester — B. Carr, S. Campbell, C. Caticerwood, C. Wilson — R. Fox, A. Miessen, D. Anderton (sub: J. Domingutz, Torrin), A. Sarkon — D. Girols (sub: S. Carmingutz, Torrin), A. Sarkon — D. Girols (sub: S. Carmingutz, Torrin), A. Sarkon — D. Burner, 463, B. Anness — A. dia Zasuw, P. Madesteck (sub: M. Bidfock, 46), A. Moses — N. Eadeo, E. Tinfock, "N. Fiedham, D. Bermard, M. Agoleby — A. Ward, A. Uddalf (sub: G. Histov, 67). Fiederics: M. Read.

Lynne Tross, page 33 With the training, it is just the I said to Christian before the that was good about this Spurs Liverpool toiling in Shankly's shadow

to stare mistyeved into the past at Antield. On the front of the match Saturday there was Bill Shankly in his familiar messianic pose,

reminding the club of its glorious yesterdays. Liver-SPORSOES

have commissioned a statue of the great man and placed it right outside the Kop. It is a long-overdue tribute, but its timing stinks. It is not the past that Liverpool need to punder but the immediate future.

They need to win the champion-ship, not just for their own sake but also for the sake of a healthy FA Carling Premiership, in which Manchester United are exerting a Stalinist grip. Even Alex Ferguson would concede that his side needs authentic domestic competition, although Liverpool would hardly be his choice of rivals. It is not going to happen this season. Liverpool are a lovely side, oozing class and crearivity, but they are simply not ruthless enough to brazen it out at

the head of the league. Shankly had one great maxim: that to win the title, his side must steal points they had no right to Against Coventry City, Liverpool almost failed to win a match they should have smolled. Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager. conceded that his side is a lightyear behind Liverpool in terms of



LIVERPOOL COVENTRY CITY 0

By David Maddock

finish off weaker opposition and Roy Evans, the manager, hinted at his frustration. "We just got ner-vous," he said. We played well for 20 minutes, and then ... I don't know, I can't

quality, and yet at 1-0 down they were always in

Liverpool have

forgotton how to

with a chance.

won it more easily." They did start well enough. With McManaman yet again a threat on the right they created chances for Fowler and Redknapp before the latter produced a wonderful ball, matched by an equally intelligent cross from McManaman, that allowed Michael Owen the simplest of goals at the far post.

fault their attitude, but after that

start I would have liked to have

From then, Liverpool flowed forward sweetly without ever suggesting that they could emulate the efficiency of the teams of the past. That, now, is the preserve of their rivals from down the East Lancs

If the present looks decidedly uninspiring, what about the future? That, in the form of Owen, appears a little more encouraging. This young man has only just turned 18 and yet here is a footballer of implausible maturity. What can Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, have been thinking of when he criticised Owen for his



Owen, left, the Liverpool match-winner, takes on Nilsson

alleged waywardness on and off the field last week? Owen's conduct marks him out as a model professional. "I didn't see any difficulties from him on the pitch, I never have," Evans said.

Owen, though, is not yet the finished article, as fast as the bandwagon that is propelling him is travelling. He missed two chances, one in the first half and

one in the second, that should have been taken and his awareness is still limited. It may be churlish to say so of a player so young, but it

brings us neatly back to the

Robbie Fowler is Liverpool's present, and the club's supporters should remember it. Here is a young man who has scored 30 goals in each full season he has guarantee that he will continue to produce such statistics. Who can

match that? Not Owen - not yet. Even so, the Liverpool supporters were highly critical of him during this match because he had, by his own standards, a poor game, missing perhaps two decent chances. What they should remember is that Fowler is negotiating a new contract and is sensitive enough to be influenced by such fickleness. Strachan recognises his talent. When asked about Owen, he preferred to dwell on the threat of Fowler and how his side mullified him. It was one of the few features of the game that pleased him.

"My players cannot hope to match Liverpool's quality, but they did not listen or take in what I said to them," Strachan said. "We are going home with regrets and that is the worst thing that can happen to a professional footballer. Give everything and get beat, sure, but never regret not having a go."

Coventry still had their moments. Hall volleyed over from close range and Boateng, who was making his first appearance, shot straight at James when wellplaced. They did not deserve a draw, but the fact that they almost achieved it was as pertinent as the image of Shankly on the front of the

programme. Drog Rathers.

LMSRPOOL (44-2) D James — J McAsser, BT Keems, D Metter, S-Harlmes — S-McAtenamer, J Carragher, J Redinapp, O Leonhardsen — M Ower, R Fouler.

COVENTRY CTY (44-2) M Hedman — R Nissen, R Shaw, D Dubth, M Hell — P Taller, G Besterg, TE Solvect, Isub: Gave Stracher, Straid, N Whylan — S Haworsh (sub: A Ducros, 48), D Huckerby.

Referes: P Alcock.

Chastened # Villa lose their way in the fog



ASTON VILLA 1 SOUTHAMPTON 1 By Simon Wilde

ON THIS evidence, one can only hope that Aston Villa go on to win' the Usfa Cup, because they are going nowhere in the FA Carling Premiership. Villa Park may be a fortress in Europe, and Savo Milosevic the man with the golden touch against foreign opposition. but domestically it is a different

Southampton, who have an atroclous away record, showed them-selves well-organised in defence, coolly confident and perfectly willing to try to kidnap all three points if the opportunities arose in a

scrappy but eventful game.

David Jones, their manager. may not have been entirely serious when he called it an injustice that Matthew Le Tissier's late and swiftly taken free kick (clearly from the wrong place) was disallowed by David Elleray, but his protesta-tions summed up his team's chutzpah. With only an ounce or two of luck, they would have won.

Le Tissier was a constant problem to Villa, his skill and vision seemingly getting sharper the denser the swirling fog became in the last quarter. He was easily the most perceptive and inventive player on the field, throwing into stark contrast the performances of Stan ' Collymore and Milosevic, who had scored the decisive goal against Steams Bucharest when VIIIa were

last at home 11 days earlier. Perhaps if this had been Atlético Madrid, Milosevic would have buried the three or four giftwrapped chances that came his way, rather than apparently brooding about Villa's unreasonable threat (as he sees it) to keep him to the optional extra year in his

He will rue his profilgacy in not doing more with the underhit backpass from Lundekvam on to which he pounced in the tenth minute, or drilling bome crosses he received, in space and close to goal, from Collymore and Charles, But at least he had the nous to take up positions he is paid to find; for most of the be seen, though this did not stop the crowd from seeking him out and giving vent to their displea-

Collymore's best, and virtually only, chance came shortly after half-time when the hard-working Charles located him on the edge of he Southampton penalty area, but his wild miscue over the bar was symptomatic of his recent misfortune.

Nevertheless, afterwards he professed himself to be as happy as at any stage of his career: if only people would stop criticising him, he seemed to imply, soon every-thing would be all right.

Both he and Milosevic would have given their right foot to have shown Taylor's admirably clinical finish in the 65th minute that gave Villa their short-lived lead. With a deft touch, Taylor took the pace off. the busy Draper's drilled cross from the right before driving the ball past Paul Jones's left hand, all in three tidy steps.

Staunton, the man who set up Milosevic's goal against Steaua, also found fate treating him very differently. It was his mistake that allowed Southampton to draw level within eight minutes, when a hoof unfield by their goalkeeper misled him into back-pedalling foriously but fullely. The ball sailed over his head and into the grateful path of the unmarked Ostenstad, who had no trouble finding a way past

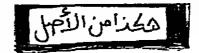
Staumon, too, brought down? Palmer — who was at the heart of? Southampton's strategy — with a desperate tackle from behind that led directly to Le Tissier's controversial free kick. The referee said it was in the wrong place but he has only moved the ball about a yard, Jones said. "I did not see any of" their players complaining."

Though the referee's decision saved him from further mishan. Staumton left the field a chastened man. Perhaps God is an accountant who likes to balance his books



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THE TIMES MONDAY DECEMBER 22 1997

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Demolition of Wednesday highlights championship potential of maturing side

عكدلمن رالإمل

Gullit brewing special Chelsea vintage



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1 CHELSEA 4

By Rob Hughes

A WHOLE Chelsea generation has been unable to raise a glass at Christmas to a true blue challenge for the championship. This year is different ten goals in two away games, invention flowing from every pore, make Rund's Blues the finest collection since Chelsea were the champions in 1955.

Still there is Manchester United ahead. There is the reality that, while Chelsea might easily have doubled their four goals at Hills-borough on Saturday, the opposi-tion was without class, without ambition, without order. The King's Road choristers at the Leppings Lane end knew it. "Are you Tottenham in disguise?" they teased at Sheffield Wednesday's

A good question. Ron Atkinson, hired to be the Messiah, now knows the feeble spirit among Wednesday players that cost David Pleat his job as manager last month. "Performance?" Atkinson asked rhetorically. "What performance? Chelsea will have come expecting a high-tempo game. They didn't get one, they'll have had harder practice sessions. We didn't compete, you don't want to see professionals perform like that." Professionals, we might ask? What professionals? Those in Wed-

nesday colours displayed neither pride nor the commitment to work as Leicester City, Wimbledon, even Barnsley do to make up for technical deficiency. There is a league within a league these days, but the very least that Wednesdayites were entitled to expect was the courage to make a better fist of inequality.

Ruud Guliit, the Cheisea manager, and Graham Rix, the coach, are blending talents from three continents and, week by week, the



Vialli, the scorer of Chelsea's second goal, bursts between Newsome, left, and Nolan, the Sheffield Wednesday defenders. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird/Allsport

fluency flows. Yet one feels that Manchester United remain ahead, a combination of technique worthy of Chelsea and the work ethic of Blackburn Rovers.

United, for example, would have. put Wednesday to the sword much sooner. Zola missed a glaring chance after two minutes and was a

runner than a year ago. Or maybe he, and Chelsea, have the Christmas glut of fixtures in mind and

seek to spread their energy.
"It's like boxing." Gullit said.
"You wait to see what the other team has, what their tactics are. and you react to that. It's important to stay involved [in the championship), and I'm pleased with the message this result sends. I'm very satisfied also that everyone in this team can score goals because if you depend on one you are very vulnerable - and we still have interna-- and we still have internationals to come back." He has in mind Babeyaro, Poyet, Kharine

and Mark Hughes. Wednesday have only the sus-pended captain, Atherton, a leader

of dogged athleticism, to return. In themselves tactically by using Stefanovic at left back. A reasonable libero, Stefanovic lacks the pace or awareness to track runners and Cheisea soon exploited this imbalance. Petrescu slipped infield on the right, dragging his marker. Pembridge, with him, and Sinclair,

with no one to tackle, was fed a succession of inviting passes down that touchline. Alas, Sinclair is not on the wavelength of some of his continental cousins and his poor touch squandered good possession. Di Matteo is another matter.

Marshalling midfield even more than Wise, running off the ball for Leboeul's perceptive long ball,

Matteo had the pulse of the play. Wednesday deem Di Canio and Carbone one Italian too many for the FA Carling Premiership and preferred Di Canio at the start. How instructive it was to see this mercurial man so discouraged when Di Matteo, reading his mind, got back to intercept his pass. Thereafter, Di Canio was notice-able principally for his white boots.

Chelsea, however, had three Italians, Vialli running like a man possessed with working off excess energy though he, like Zola, missed a siner. Yet Vialli never hides. His run set up Petrescu for the first goal, a ciever, calm placement from outside the penalty box after 30 minutes. Vialli then poached the second, stepping in front of the inert Pressman to head in Zola's 57th-minute corner, and Vialli's strength, persistence and timely fall wrought a penalty, thumped home by Leboeuf seven minutes later. "That looked the least of their three shouts for pens," Atkinson said. Nolan had Vialli by the shirt, the shorts and kicked his leg.

Briefly, Wednesday's day was illuminated when Carbone, a substitute for Di Canio and showing greater perseverance, showed that pressure. The ball was dabbed clear but guided with stunning brilliance into the net from 20 vards by Pembridge. That goal tran-scended Wednesday's surrender, but the flow, and Tore Andre Flo. came back for Chelsea.

With control belying his height. Flo made one devastating burst past Walker and Newsome. Then he advanced again and, using Nicholis and Di Marteo as decoys, the Norwegian studiously defeated Pressman first bounce from 23 yards. Flo will be pressed to make an appearance with Zola and Vialli in contention on Boxing Day. The riches are Gullit's to juggle; the goals already delivered have given Atkinson indigestion.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2) K Preseman — I Nolan, J Newsome, D Walter, D Stetanowic — G Whitingham (sub: N Alexandersson, Shriin), W Collins (sub: G Hyde, Sh), P Rud, M Pembridge — P Di Canio (sub: B Carbone, 67), A Booth. CHELSEA (4-4-2): E de Goey — F Sinclar (sub: B Carbone, 67), M Dichery, F Labbeul, G Le Saux — D Petrascu, D Wiee, R Di Malteo, M Nicholic — G Zola (sub: T A Flo, 57), G Viall

Blackburn's authority grows in pursuit of United



Lomas, who was sent off for taking his protests too far

minutes into the second half on Saturday. It was a coded message signalling the end of a brief security alert, but, with Blackburn two goals up against the team with the worst recent away record in the FA Carling Premiership, it was also an apt comment on the

state of the match. When Gerald Ashby, the referee, turned his back on strong West Ham United claims for a penalty soon afterwards, and then dismissed Steve Lomas for taking his protests too far, it only confirmed the outcome, the victory taking Blackburn to within a point of Manchester United, the leaders.

Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, was pleased with a performance that had grown in authority after a slow start. Missing the heading power of the suspended Chris Sutton, he select-

"OPERATION Ewood Park com-plete," the Blackburn Rovers pub-lic address system announced ten Gallacher and it worked to perfection, Duff scoring twice and having a foot in most of the game's best moments. "We tried something a little different." Hodgson said. "We knew the big West Ham defenders would dominate in the air, but it was nice to see that we could cause them so

many problems with our move-

ment. I don't think they quite knew how to deal with it." After 21 minutes Rio Ferdinand dealt with Duff by obstructing him: from the free kick. Sherwood's cross found Stuart Ripley mmarked to head his first goal for 44 months; no big defenders dominating there. Gallacher should have doubled the advantage with the last kick of the first half, but only five minutes into the second Impey's misplaced header presented the ball to Duff, who



BLACKBURN ROVERS 3 WEST HAM UNITED 0 By Nick Szczepanik

Against visitors who never looked as if they expected to avoid an eighth successive away defeat, Rovers had barely had to extend themselves to take a decisive lead, as Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, admitted. "Scandalous goals, terrible defending: Christmas, isn't it? I think I'm going to have to change the system. Away from home, when we haven't got the ball, it gives too

the "penalty" that was not awarded when Kitson appeared to be tripped by Hendry, but fatalistic on the sending-off that was inevitable when Lomas barged the referee. "If that's not a penalty I'll pack the job in," he said. "He Lomas wanted to make a point and he overreacted; we ended up getting doubly punished. It was

"It looked like a penalty," Hodgson admitted. The players tell me it clearly wasn't and they don't normally lie directly to my face. On the bench you always fear the worst." The worst not forthcoming, Rovers threatened to run riot, McKinlay, in particular, would have richly deserved to see his 30-yard shot find the top corner of the net instead of the goalkeeper's fingertips, but Blackburn scored only once more, Duff

Ripley's run and low cross had Redknapp was adamant about caused chaos in front of Forrest. "What pleased me most today was that the controlled aggression we showed last week at Arsenal

was there again." Hodgson said. A disappointment for Blackburn must have been a crowd of only 21,653, well below an average that is down on that of last season. The Blackburn public may not

believe in the team, but whoever chooses the music for that Ewood Park PA system clearly does, signing off with Simply the Best. Better than all the rest? Many at Old Trafford and Stamford Bridge might disagree; but cer-tainly too good for West Ham. BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-1-1) T Flowers — J Renne, S Henchoz, C Herrdry, G Croth — 3 Riptey (sub G Riscott, 72mm), W McCirley, T Sherwood, J Wilcox — D Dut (sub L Bohinen, 77) — K Gallacher (sub: J Beamle 63) WEST HAM UNITED (3-4-1-2): C Forrest — 1 Peance R Ferdinand, D Unsworth — A Imply, S Lomas, F Lampard, K Rowland — E Berhovic — J Hartson, J Kisson (sub: 5 Abou, 83). Referenc G Ashby



in a splendid performance

Cadamarteri's commitment pushes Leicester into error

IT HAS happened at last and, perhaps by the mere law of averages it had to. Everton have won away from home in the FA Carling Premiership for the first time in more than a year. It was also their first win of any sort since October, when they had the audacity to beat their more successful neighbours, Liverpool. That day it was the 18-year-old.

Danny Cadamarteri, who scored such a speciacular goal. At Leicester it was Cadamarteri who provoked the 89th-minute penalty from which unexpected victory was gained. Six minutes earlier. Cadamarteri had obliged Kasey Keller, Leicester's American goalkeeper, to make his first save of the game after Barmby had cleverly sent bim away down the left flank-It was again from the left that Cadamerteri cut into the box, after a suicidal back-header by Lennon. Keller, who came tearing out of his goal, brought him down just

penalty, Martin O'Neill, the Leicester таладет, did not disagree, though he said: I think Spencer Prior should have got there. Once a forward gets a touch on the ball. anything can happen. Gary Speed put away the penalty kick. Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, was left, for once, with a

inside the area. It was a clear

smile on his face, while Leicester had egg on theirs. Kendall said, would cause most people problains with his pace. He's strong, he's burst on the scene, he's got Fenton to memendous talent and is a little bit rebound.



LEICESTER CITY 0 EVERTON 1

different from most strikers that you see because of that electric

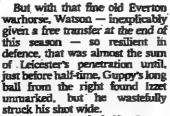
By Brian Glanville

Pace, it should be said, supported by moral and physical courage. He cannot, as Leicester's big defenders discovered, be bullied out of the game, nor will he give up taking difficult options, trying to beat an opponent and finding the

fastest way to goal.

Leicester have their own young England star in Emile Heskey but. on this occasion, after a bright beginning, he was something of a blunt instrument, not helped by Leicester's lack of intelligence in the build-up and their penchant for banging the ball upfield,

hoping he could catch it. In the first couple of minutes Heskey looked as if he might win the game on his own. His header from Guppy's left-wing cross had Thomas Myhre, Everton's new Norwegian goalkeeper, diving to save. Almost at once, Heskey had a shot parried by Myhre, only for Fenton to shoot wide from the



In the second half, Guppy turned inside Barrett out on the left wing before finding Claridge, the substitute, who headed nar-

The truth is, however, that Leicester generated far more heat than light in an unpleasant game that saw Jeff Winter, the referee, brandish yellow cards in abundance. Even so, he was largely a permissive figure and he should eve booked Öster almost as soon as the game began, before letting far too many unseemly goings-on

pass unpunished. His performance was thrown into reher in the first minute of the second half when, having ignored so much skulduggery, he booked Barrett simply for delaying a

Kendall was tolerant in victory. "It was a difficult game to handle." he said, "because it looked as if things were happening off the ball." Alas, they were happening on the ball, as well.

LECESTER CITY (3-5-2) K Keller — S Paci, S Walsh, M Ellott — P Karnerk (sub: S Wilson-Yémin), M Izzet, N Lennon, R Savage, S Gapply — E Heskey, G Fenton (sub: S Clandge, 48).

EVERTON (3-5-2): They're — C Short, D Walson, C Tiler — E Barrett, G Fantelly, J Oster (sub: M Ball SQ), A — Hincholite — N Barminy, D Cadamarter!



WIMBLEDON ARSENAL Today, 8.0



Matt Dickinson Arsène Wenger has spent the past week denying that there are rifts in the Arsenal dressing-room, that he Wright to Everton and

that he has no money for new signings. Apart from that, and the fact that his team has stipped to sixth in the FA Carling Premiership, all is well for the Frenchman.

Wimbledon continue to struggle through against all expectations; they have lost just twice in their past eight games despite an horrendous catalogue of injuries. Their 0-0 draw at Everton last week was a masterpiece of killing a game stone dead and taking away a point and they may be happy to do likewise tonight.

However, with Chris Perry suspended and Brian McAllister possibly out for the season, they may find that their resources are just too thin against an Arsenal team who know that they cannot afford to lose any more ground after the defeat by Blackburn last week.

WMBLEDON (probable; 4-4-2)* N Sulliver — B Thatcher, A Receis, D Bladearel, A Kimble — N Archey, V Jones, R Earle, C Hughas — C Cort, M Gayle: ARSENAL (probable; 4-4-2); D Seaman — L Dinon, A Adarts, S BOAG, N Winesthan — F Partour, P Wate, D Plat, M Overthas — I Waght, D Berghamp. Rateres: D Gallaghar.

TELEVISION: Today: Live on Sky Sports 1, from 7pm. PREDICTION: Arsenal win

Derby and Palace combine forces to make impression

Alex Ferguson will not be reduced to a gibbering wreck when the latest FA Carling Premiership bulletin drops through the Old Trafford letter box, even if it does make page one news of the fact that, 26 seasons ago, Manchester United led the table by four points on Christmas Day and eventually finished eighth. The champions that year? Derby County. The chance of history repeating itself? Somewhere between slim and none (and Slim, as they say, has already left town).

As enchanting as their football is between the penalty areas and as much as Pride Park, like the Baseball Ground before it, has rapidly developed into an intimidating arena for visiting leams -Derby are unbeaten in their new home, with six wins out of nine their form on the mad, where they have taken just eight points out of 30, mitigates against any talk of the title.

But in an age in which thousands of supporters try to recoup their outlay on real-life heroes by entering lucrative fantasy competitions, what would they give for a team that coupled Derby's destructive tendencies at home and the astonishing away-day stickahility of Crystal Palace, whose defiance on Saturday in a seemingly hopeless cause was the stuff of legend. Crystal County (manager. Jim Coppell) would have them quaking in their designer hoots at the Stretford End.

So slovenly at Selhurst Park. where they have managed just five



DERBY COUNTY 0 CRYSTAL PALACE 0

By Keith Pike

goals and three draws in eight attempts. Palace need only a coach ride and overnight stop to be transformed. Shorn of six guaranteed first-teamers, including their two influential Italians and their leading — some would say only goalscorer, and forced to give a debut to a youngster who had

Results and tables. Peacock strikes.... Rangers back on top ..

failed previously even to make the substitutes' bench, they appeared easy prey here.

Palace, though, were having

none of it. Their contribution to the entertainment was strictly limited - although this was by no means the worst nil-nil draw of all time and their backs were to the wall for so long that it always appeared that one more Derby shove would see the whole team collapse, but there was something vaguely heroic about their refusal to submit,

"The Scouse have a word for itspunk," Steve Coppell said, "and we seem to have a lot more of it about us away from home." Mart Poom, the Derby goalkeeper who was presented with the Estonia player-of-the-year award before kick-off, might as well have trav-elled home to collect it, for all that he was troubled, but Coppell did not feel compelled to apologise for Palace's lack of ambition, and rightly so. "We have been involved in some thrilling games and been beaten," he said. "It was a magnificent result for us."

It might have been better still Emblen, with a low left-foot shot, and Linighan, with an unopposed header, both failed to hit the target when in prime position. Defeat for Derby, though, would have been horribly unjust. Their approach play was a delight, the control and movement of Eranio and Baiano mesmerising. Only their finishing let them down. Deon Burton missing the four clear-cut chances they created, Baiano striking the bar with a sumptuous volley and Miller saving athletically from Chris Powell.

"Two-nil up against Manchester United, 3-1 up at Bolton, 3-0 up at Leeds ... we would be top of the league if we could kill off teams." Jim Smith, the Derby manager, said. Some, like Palace, simply refuse to die.

PEUSE TO CIFE.
DERBY COUNTY (3-4-3): M Poorn — G Rowett, I
Stimac. S Ellioti (sub D Yates. 55/mm) — S
Branto, L Carsley, D Powel, C Powel — P Wanchope, F Batiano, D Button (sub: R Williams, S)
CRYSTAL PALACE (1-3-4-2). K Misse — A Roberts. — A Linghen, J Fluidenon, H Heidenson.— S
Button, N Ernblan, S Rodger, D Gordon — 1 Zohar
sub. B Dyer, 55), P Warhurst,
Filtermer, M Boderniam.



(a) o eattinghym FRIDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Fulham 1 Bur Oldham 0 Walsali 0 Southend 4 York 4 THIRD DIVISION 13/ 3 ROCHDALE 3,378 101 0 Sent off J Doctor (Manchela) 57 (Q) Wright 83 4,013 MACCLSFLD (0) 1 CARDIFF 2 398 (0) 0 14) **5 LPICOLII** Thorpe 2 3 771 PETERBOR (1) 1 SWANSEA (1) 1 CAMEROGEU (O) Wilcon 59 (pen) Sent of Fi Appletry (Swanse at 48 FRIDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Colchester 2 Chester 0, Donroaster 0, Rotherham 3, Scarborough 1 Barner 0

GOALSCORERS NATIONWIDE FIRST DIVISION 18° P Jan Hosydonii (Notim Forest) 15: B Angell (Stockgort) 14: C Hay (Samdon, one for Celest, C Mandona (Charlon), D Johnson (Ilphanch) 12: M Beck (Middlesbrough), A Amatong (Stochpari) 11: A Hunt (West Brom, B Dearce 'Sheft Urd; P Ponne (Stocke), J Boaschamp (Ordind Urb) 10: K Campbell (Norm Forest): P Dahon (Huddersheld) J A Fjortoti (Sheft Urd) L Jones (Transser)

SECOND DIVISION: 17: A Boi (Waisen 14: S Godto (Bristol City) 13: 13 Stated (Wycombo, B Hayles (Bristol Royers): A Rowe (York): A Taylor (Bristol 12: A Arinby (Gillingham), S Barrow (Cicham), P Pescheolato (Paltam), 11: A Thorpe (Lutan), 10: D Lawe (Wigan, L Ashooft (Preston) P Rennody (Watdord); D Seal (Noranampton) at Jancen (Cartsle)

Janzen (Janzse)
THRO DMSION, 19: J Quann (Peterborough) 15:
M Carruthers (Peterborough) 13: D Rosebotham
(Excler) 12: G Bornett (Drester), S Whitchall
(Mansfield) I Christe (Mansheld) 11: J Cullen
(Hartlepool), G Williams (Scarborough) O White
(Stressbury), D Roberts (Dannigton) 10: A Bed
Swanstal R Panet (Rochtulk) 9: L Glover
(Rothorham); S Dovine (Barnet) J Eyre
Construction includes all competitions

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP Bolton Wanderers, G Want, G Bergsson, A Todd, C Farndough, J Phillips, M Johansen (sub. F Carr, 78min), J Pollock, P Francisco, S Sellars, N BLake, P Beandsley Bookad: Phillips, Beardsley, Johanson, Sellars,

- جنيج در ماريا **س**ندي دايشدن پايت سان د

(0) () EVERTON Speed 89 (pen) LEICESTER 20,628 (O) 1 20,628 Speed 89 (pen)
Leacestre Cay, N. Keller, P. Karmani Fruh S. Wisson, 76mm)
S. Guppy, S. Phorr, M. Fillon, S. Yalsh, M. Izzet, N. Leanon, R. Sanege, E. Hestery, G. Fenson (sub. S. Clandge, 45mm)
Booked: Sanege, Hestery, Prus
Eventon: T. Mytre, E. Barrett, C. Short, D. Watsom, C. Filer, A. Henchrollle, J. Osler (sub. M. Ball, 90mm), G. Speed, G. Farrett, N. Barmby, D. Cademariet.

Renderd, Standard Ville, Burnett, Burnett, B. Booked, Speed, Tiler, Barrett, Barmby.

(1) 1 COVENTRY 39,707 LIVERPOOL Liverpool: D. James, B.T. Kvarme, J. McAleer, S. McManaman O. Leonhardsen, B. Powler, J. Rednupp, S. Hartmess, M. Owen D. Matteo, J. Garragher Booksd: Carragher Kvarme Coventry City: M Hedman, R Shaw, D Huckethy, N Whelan, D Dublin, P Teller, TE Sothed (sub Gawin Strachan, Schwin G Bouering M Hail, S Hawarth (sub. A Duares, 85mm), R Nilsson.

(O) O

(0)

(0) 0

(1) 1

(3) 3

(1) 2

Referes: P Alcock. (0) 1 CHELSEA Petrescar 30 Valif 56 Leboard 65 (pan) Tin 84 (1) 4 SHEET WILD Pembridge 71 28,334

Sooked: Teller, Boalen

Sheffield Wednessday F. Pressman, I Nokan, M. Parnbridge, J. Nersome, D. Walker, G. Whitmigham (sub: N. Alexanderszon, Särmin), A. Booth, P. Di. Cann (sub: B. Carbon, G. Stebanova, W. Collins; sub: G. Hyde. Särmin), P. Rudi. Chelsea, F. Dr. Goer, D. Peinestu, F. Leboeuf, G. Walli, D. Wiso, M. Othero, F. G. Le Saux, R. Dr. Majkro, F. Souchar (sub: S. Cade. 77min). M. Necholis, G. Zola (sub: T.A. Plo, 68min).

BELLS

PREMIER DIVISION

CELTIC Burley 23, 90 Weighorst 38 McManuri, 49 Larsson 64 Larson 64
Calib: J Gould, T Boyd, O Hannah, J McKamera, E Annoni, A
Suibbs, H Larson (sub D Jardson, 72min), C Burbey, M
Wiselborst (sub H Bastharib, Bilmin), P Lambert, H Bilminer
(sub A Thom, 81min)
Booked: Burley, Jackson,
Hilbermann, C Reid, M Haller, J Boon, A Dods, J Hughes, J
McChullen, A Walter (sub K Miller, Bilmin), K Harper, S
Crawford (sub A Rougler, 75min), A Dow (subr J Chemiley,
71min), P McClinlay,
800ked: McGintay

UTTO (2) 2 ST JOHNSTONE (0) 10 Kame 83 27 7,342 Sent oft 1, Jenionson (SI Johnson) 75 DUNDEE UTD McLaren 10 Otofsson 27 Sent off I. Jenionson (Si Johnshr) 75

Dumber Urded: S Dykste, J Dotan M Malpas, S Pressley, M Peny, E Pedersen, K Olsson, L Stefrind, G McSiregan sufe R Wanters, 81 mkn), R McKlamon (sub: N Dudy, 67 mkn), A McLi min.

Buokect McSwegan
Bi, Johnstone: A Main, D Gulfin (sub: S McGluskey, Stemin), Preston, N Dasone; (sub: N O'Halloran, 75 mkn), J West, A Kamaghan, T Winghi (sub: R Grant, 82 mkn), J O'Nell, P Jame, G O'Boyle, Jerkinson.

ooked: Desovic, Kemaghan, Jankinson, Whighl

(1) 2 RANGERS 17 Durie 6, 34, 86 38 Nego 69 (part) Albertz 78 Sant off G Garinco (Rangers) 69 Sent of G Gallace (Rangers) 89
Heartis. G Roussel, G Locks, N Pombon (sub J Quibongo, 71mm), D Wen, S Sahedon, P Ridne, N McCann, S Fution, J Robertson, I Cameron (sub T Flogel, Bürnen), S Adam (sub J Hamillon, Bürnen), Birtin, Powerton, Samulari Bangers: P Seelders, A Celent, S Stensam, S McCall, S Parriol, J Bignings, & Chang, I, S Sensam, S McCall, S Parriol, J Bignings, & Chang, I, Forguson, M Negri (soft 8 Laudrup, Birmin), R Gallace, J Albert:
Bitelinati McCall, Parlink, Euleman

KILIMARIACICX (1) 1 ABERDEEN Vinghi 27 RJASZ (0) 0 Aberdeen: J. Leighton, R. Anderson (sub: J. Miller, 87mm), D. Whyte, S. O'Neil, J. Inglis, G. Smith, P. Bernard, E. Jess, M. Namell (sub: R. Gilles, 58mm), D. Dodris, I. Kinalaw,

(0) 2 DUNFERMLINE (0) 0 4.607 Coyle 51 89 4.907

Motherwell: S Woods, E May, S McMillan (sub: W Daves, 21mm), R Neaman, B Marint, J Philiban, J Hendry (sub: M West, 35mm) E Shreata, T Coyne S McStammung, G Coyle. Booked: Philiban, Shreata, G Shelds, M McCuSpoth (sub: S Doarle, 27mm), A Tod, D Barnett, H Carran, I Dan Bernan, sub: G Sagar, Patrint, C Robertson, S Peirle (sub: A Moore, 10mm), H French, D Brogham

Raferne: J Haraki

lafaree: J Young

(0) 0

FIRST DIVISION FALKURK Grang 37 James 57 (1) 2 AIRDRIE McPhet 9 2,636 (1) 1 **G WORTO** Duffield 9 1,903 (1) 1 STIFILING Bane 40 Bennes 42 Zahan-On 57 (2) 3 PARTICK L/ons 14, 52 Morgan 86 (1) 3 AYR 3,080 (0) 0 (Clark 21 2,789 (7) 1 McCuade 76 (og) Wright E5, 90 (0) to DUNDEE Anderson Grady 90 st Merrei J 165 (0) 2

Sent alt A Raddic (St Mirror) 26 SECOND DIVISION BRECHIN Hutcheon 75 256 UNITERNIT Cherry To 1 521 (2) 2 Maon 23 Cargelt 37 O CLYDE (2) 2 DUEEN OF SOUTH (1) 2 EAST FIFE (Some 29 Monta) 68 (pen) (1 013 Malan 85 1 013
Sent off J Thomson (Cueron CV South) 44 (0) 0 ELVDERAM Adams 63 (0)

THIRD DIVISION ARCHOATE (2) 3 ALBION Brus 563 Sent of N McKilligan (Albian) 45 CONDENSEATH (C) O BERIWICK 203 Escalon 8 Finlayson 66 (1) 2 Sent off C Sinclair (Cowdinbth) 46 DUMBARTON 101 0 EAST STIPLING 23

GOALSCORERS BELL'S PREMIER DIVISION: 31 M Negn (Rangers) 15: H Larscon: (Celtor, 14, R Winters) Dundee Urd) G McSwogan (Dundee Urd) 13 A Smith (Dunfermine) 12 k Oldiscon (Dundee Urd) Sman (Durelemine) 12 A Unitson (Junose Uni) 10 O Coyle (Mathemell), 5 Dometry (Cetic) 9: T Coyne (Mathemell), C Buttey (Cetic) 8: D Dodds (Abordeen) P. Wiight (Kitnamock), A. McCoot (Rangers), 7: S. Adam (Hearts), N. McConn (Hearts)

POSTPONED, ABOX & ROSS Co.

includes all competitions

1 OLIEEN'S PARK Mercer 29, 63 Edgar 83

FIRST DIVISION: 10: A Bone (Striking) 9: Winght Rathin W Hawke (Greenock Morton) 8 J Grody (Dundson 7 J Grody (Striking)) 5 Cooper (Aerdref & Celay (Felher) 6: E Annand (Dundse) L Dudfo (Ayr) J Clark (Hamston); P Connolly (Aerdne), P McGrisen (Fallish);

Tottenham Hotspar I Walter, C Caldenesod, R Fox, A Nelsen, D Anderson (sub. J Domingues, 70mm), L Fardjeand (sub. S Aersen, 46mm), S Carr, D Ginota (sub. S Clemence, 58mm), D Wilson, A Sistion, S Campbell

Barneley: I. Losco, N. Eaden, M. Appleby, A. Moses, A. De Zeeuw, R. Redleam, A. Liddelb (sub: G. Hinstov, 67mo), E. Tinkler, D. Barnard, A. Ward, P. Marksledi (sub: M. Builock, 45min).

(Ú) O MAN UTD Coio 66

Manchester United: P Schmeichel, G Heville, R Johnson, P Neville, G Pallicter, D Boddham, N Butl, R Giggs, P Scholes (sub. D & Solchaer, 72min). A Cole, E Shernightem (sub. B McClair, Gurney)

GOALSCORERS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP, 17: J Hartion (Westham) 16: A Cole (Man Utd) 12: C Sutton (Blackburn), D Regidamp (Arsenel) 11: F Baerio (Beby); G Valla (Chelsea) 10: I Wind (Arsenel): K Gellacher (Backburn): R Walface (Leods): K Davies (Southampton), P Wanchope (Derby), 9: N Blake (Botton), P Di Camo (Sheff Wed), R Fowler (Liverpool): E Shanngham (Man Utd).

Booked: Gillespie, Pislone, Batty, Peacoci

Brownet But, P Naville, Cale.

netudes all competitions

Returned P James.

Referee: M Reed.

Newcastle 36,767

TTALIAN LEAGUE: Ban O Piacenza O; Brescia 1 AS Roma 1; Forentina 5 Azalanta Bergamo O; Juventus, 5 Empoli 2; Lazio 4 Vicenza O, Parma Z Lecce 1; Sampdoria 6 Napoli a; Udinese 1 Fiorentma 5 Atalanta Vicenza (), Parma 2 (Udnese Parma AS Roma Lazio Frogratina AC Milan Sampdona Vicentia Brescia Empoli Pacanza Bain Bolograi Atalonta Lucco Napoli

Does not include last night's match SPANISH LEAGUE: Barcelona 3 Atléboo Madrid 1; Racing Santander 2 Reel Betis 0; Valladolid 4 Zeregoža 0; Athletic Bibeo 5 Merida 1, Celta Vigo 3 Oviedo 0; Compostela 0 Deportivo La Corune 0; Sporting Gijon 0 Valenca 2. Leading positions

Barcolona Real Madwi Real Sociedad Ceta Vigo Athletic Bibeo Adelico Madrid Espanol Real Boos Mellorca Zerrenza 380 253 392 253 253 263 277 13 | 11 Zeregoza Racing Sai Ovedo Salamanca Merida Does not include last right's matches

GERMAN LEAGUE: Borussie Dommund 2 Scheike 2; Borussia Moenchengladbach 4 Hertha BSC 2; Ambria Belefeld 2 Karlsuhe SC 1; Bayer Levertusen 5 VB Stuttgart 1, MSV Dulsburg 2 VI. Bochum 0; Kalsrislautem 2 Cofogne 2; VI. Wollsburg 3 Bayern Munich 3; TSV 1880 Munich 0 Werder Pts 39 26 25 23 29 19 18 14 19 12 11 11 D 3 5 5 7 Hensa Rostock Herthe Besin Karlsruhe Bor M'gladbach Armnia Belefeki 1860 Munich lemburg Bochum Does not molude lest night's match Does not include test night's meton
PRENCH LEAGUE: Auserne 4 Bordeaux 2, Montpellier 1 Lens 2:
Basha 0 Lyon 1; Rennes 1 Paris SG 2, Strasbourg 2 Toutouse 0;
Le Heure 1 Namiss 0; Metz 3 Monaco 0 Postponed: Cannes v
Chateauroux, Marveille v Guingemp
DUTCH LEAGUE: MW Meastricht 0 Utracht 0, NEC Nignagen;
Sparta Rotterdam 0; Graatschap Doesnichem 2 Groningen 3
Fortuna Strad 1 Roda JC Kartvade 1.
Vitesse 2 FC Twente 1, FC Volendam 0 NAC 3, Feysnood 4
Wittern II I.

OVERSEAS

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Salgueros 2 Mariamo D. Sporting Braga 2 Vigoria Satubal 2; Rio Ave 3 Balenenses D; Sporting Lisbon 1 Academica Colmbra 0; Farense 2 Campornaiorense 2 haves 0 Lece 1: Vitoria Guimarees 1 Estrela Arradora 0; entica 4 Vaccim 0 Bernica y Vasano BELGIAN LEAGUE: Eleren 2 Antwerp 0, Aaist 3 Harelbeie 2: Standard Liege 3 Chent 3: Mouscoth 0 Gent 2; Lokeren 5 Molenbeek 0: Anderlecht 2 Beveren 0: Lommei 2 Westerlo 1; Sim Truden 0 Caub Bruges 2: Charlerol 3 Lerse 0 CONFEDERATIONS' CUP: Third place play-off; Casch Republic 1 Uruguay 0 (at Riyach)



DOVER (1) '4' NORTHWICH (0) '0 Shouls 32, 57, 83, 89 781 FARMBOROUGH (1) 8 STALYBRIDGE (0) 0 Heriord 29 621 Mahara 50, 73, 78 Hariorn 59, 78, 78 Hariorn 59, 79 RALIFAX Horsfield 55 3,338 (0) 1 HEDNESFORD (0) KDORANISTR (0) 1 LERK Amold 47 Casalio 1,802 I KETTERING (2) 3 Pearson 29 Adams 34 (pert), 54 MORECAM Normae 63 1,241 3 GATESHEAD (0) Carte 01 800 (0) 0 WOKONE Danzey 10 Hay 60 Payra 86 (1) 3 TELFORD 717 MELLING Coopel III Schibwarte 39 Visison 75 (2) 3 HEREFORD (0) 0 749 YEOWIL Protond 45, 69 2,509 (1) 2 SLOUGH Herpukis at PRIDAYS LATE RESULT: Stevenage Challenham 2



the third place play-off for the Confederations' Cup. Photograph: Fatih Saribas

ION-LEAGUE	AND N	ATIONAL	LEAG	UE:

UNIBOND DR MARTENS PREMIER DIVISION: According to Stanley: Spernymoor 0. Allmohm 3. Manne 1. Samber Bridge 1. Bigth Spartars 4: Berrow: Gamebrorough 0: Bishop Aucidand 3. Lan Caster 1, Cokyn Bey 2 Radiotilla 1; Casterilla 1; Ca PREMIER DIVISION: Ashlord 4 Ame 3; Burton 2 Doughester 2; Cambridge Wordester 4, Gloucester D Crawley of Halecowen 2 Hastings 1; King's Lyfin 3 Forest Green 2; Merthyr 3 Gresley 0 Nuneation 3 Footwell 0, Salishury -Sittingbourne 0; St Leonards 2 Bromagrovi 4; Tamworth 1 Bath 2.

Pablo Garcia, left, of Uruguay, runs clear of Radek Bejbl, of the Czech Republic, in

P W D 20 14 4 y 21 12 11 Si Leonards 21 1 5 15 19 54 8

MDDLAND DIVISIONE Bedworth 2
Shepphed Dynemo 1, Bilston 3 Sutton
Colofield Town 1; Blaskengil 3 Stourbridge 3;
Corby 0 Wisbech 1, Evestam 0 litestion 5,
Moor Green 0 Brackley 1; Pager 1 Handdey
3, Raunds 1, Redorch 2, Stafford 0
Gramfram 2 VS Rugby 1 Soffmil Bloro 3
Southern division: Cindertord 2
Waterfowle 2, Enth and Behvedere 0
Howart 0, Fother 5 Bastrley 2, Fleet 4
Chencester 1, Newport AFC 2 Newport CW
2, Torlhodge Angels 2 Darticol 1, Trowandge 2 Baldock 0; Weston-S-Maie 0
Fersham 4 Weymouth 2 Cleveldon 0;
Woney 1 Margare 4, Valle 2 Chelmstord 3,
BSSEX SERNICH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bumham Ramblers 3 Elon Marror 0,
Brord 1 Great Wissering 2; Sawbringeworth
3 Bernhoam Barnblers 3 Elon Marror 0,
Brord 1 Great Wissering 2; Sawbringeworth
3 Bernhoam Barnblers 3 Elon Marror 1

Bumham Ramblers 3 Elon Marror 1

Bunder SUSSEX COUNTY / LEAGUE: First

PRIST DIVISION: Bradlend PA 3 Workington 3: Euctori 1 Famility Coltec 3, Draylosien 2 Whorty 3: Fluori 0 What'sy Bay 1: Greens 4 Belper 1 Gara 3; Hampajai Town 2 Martock Town 2: Limbin 1 Trafford 2; Netherfield 3 Competent 2; Witton 1 Stocksbridge PS 0, Yronisco 3 Great Hampad 0, Perstongarth Eastword Town M. Astrum.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Past Round: Carthusians 1 Brentwoods 4: Cholmateans 13 Architans 0 Reptemans 0 Forecters 2 Premier division: Chigwellians 5 Salognans 1 Landing 6 Haberdashers 1 First division: Willeams 1 Ademiagnans 1 OLD BOYS LEAGUE. Premier division. Old Hamptomans 0 Glyn 0 Bib Latymer 08 0 Emfold CG 2: Gdd Suntomans 2 Old Meadonapris 4 3 Brentwood 0, Sanstèd 2 Bowors 3
IMMET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First
division: Hassocia 0 Whitehaek 0,
Harsham YMCA 3 Cinchester 1, Languey
Sports 2 Redmil 1, Mei Cat 1 Work 2:
Pogham 0 Burges Hall 3, Porthetid 3,
Harthem 4, Saltdean 4 Eastbourne Town 1,
Selecy 0 Ringstor 2 Shoroham 3
Peochauch and Telscombe 1
Peochauch 2 Peophie Meadonaris 4

BOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE Senior

Section: Larchary 4 Physicians 2, Crid

Seniors 3 Old Actionaris 1. Castisation

to old Parasterians 4 West Wolfram 0

Borchins San's 2 Old Lymans 3 Old Selesians 2 Old Parasterians 3 Old Parasterians 5

Selesians 2 Old Parasterians 2, Old Oriens 2

Law West Ban's 5 Old Embanearis 0

Windomore Hill 1 Cuado 1 Middand Barri 1

Southeran Certons 3 Gares CR 1 Barts of

Windming Pair Could's Mark Day 1 Bark of England O Kew Association 1 Tos 1 Bentham 3 Old Westmarter Ctz 1 Old Stationers 8, Merton 2 Bookfeld 4 Postpored, Crouch End Vampies 7 South Took Day. Bank Poly SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior One: City of London 5 Whan 0 Southgate County 1 Particle 2 SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division: Benford 3 Symptom 2 Broth Chy. 4 Ordard Utd. 1, Reading 0 Broth Revers 2 Southemptom 0 Wimbledon 3 Postponed: Brighton v Barnet Colonestor Utd. V Tottenham Horsour Wycombe v Liston France. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division. Countries 1 Tramssmead 3 Deal 2 Favencham 6 Entr 2 Whiterable 2 Lordsword 1 Streamlich 6 Ramagase 3 Swarley Functs 2 Tacherde Wei's 3 Clar 1 Postponed: September 1 Home Bay, Carticitist 7 Stream 7 Cockenhall Hydro 1 VCO

Secret of Indigent Structure of Screen Speachaven and Telecombe 1

SCREWFIX Deflect LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell 1 Paulion 2 Bedgeword 2 Keynsham 1 Brisington 2 Taurton 3, Brisial Manor Farm 2 Bernstaple 0, Caine 4 Bedgen 1 Emore 1 Melkisham 1, Mangatsleid 4 Bedgen 1, Odd Down 9 Tonnigton 0: Wostbury 1 Tweston 2 Postponed: Chard v Chappentram Les Philips cup; Larhall Ahl I Myacombe 2 North West Countries LEAGUE: First division: Affection US 1 Mossiey 1, Bladpool Hayers 2 Darwon 0; Chapterton 1 St. Helens 1; Clitherce 3 Namework 1, Gloscop North End 2 Burscough 4, Hastingden 1 Asheron Colleens 2, Kidsgows 2, Bansbotton 0, Piesco; Cables 7 Hober CM Boys 1, Rossandale 1 Wamminon 0, Satord 0 Nameasite Foun 4, Vaunhail GM 0 Maune Boad 0 BANKS BRIEWERY LEASUE: Premier division: Buzilaholma I kington 2, Cradley 1 Dariasson 0 Elmigshal I Blowsich I, Lys 2 Westfelds 1 Sourgen 2 Stallord 0 Welverhampton Cassals 0 Thodale 2 Welverhampton 0 Ludber 1 Postponed. Comet's Malvern Walsal Wood v Brerley Hill

RYMAN PREMIRER DIVISION: Ayrelet 2: Bishop's D: Basingstoke 0 Purleet 2: Bishop's Stortlord 2 Ysading 1: Boreham Wood 3 Chesham 1: Bromley 3 Erield 1: Car-bration 1 Heybridge Swiffe 1; Dag and Red 0 Sutton Unred 2: Harrow 1 Dulwich 2: Ntchin 4 Gravesend and Northifeet or Norgatonian 0 Oxford Chy 0: Watton and Harriham 1 St Albans 0

PIRST DIVISION: Berkhamutad 1 Croydon 0; Billencay 1 Chertsey 5, Leatherhead 2 Barton Rovers 1, Meddenhaad United 6 Whyteleale 0, Molescy 2 Uddridge 3, Romford 1 Aldershot Town 2 Theme Utd 0 Hamoton 5, Wolungham 0 Bognor 2; Worthing 7 Abringdon Town 2 Postponed: Grays V Leyton Pernant. Grays v Leyton Permant.

Second division: Berling 1 Northwood 1
Sedlord Town 0 Horsham 0, Bracknell Merlow 2: Carney Island 7 Hungerford 2
Creshunt 0 Egnam 3; Met Police Standee 4, Wealdstone 3 Edgware 1
Windsor and Eton 3 Wham 1: Weinhoe Leghlon 1 Postponed: Banstead v Tibun Thard dhiston: Aveley 3 Connthes Casual 0 Camberley 2 Harton 3: Clapton Hertford 0 Croydon 3 Lewes 1, Dorlong Flackwell Health 3, Horpet Hermosteed Pord 1: Homoruch 1 Epoch and Ewell 1 ming 0 East Thurrock 2: Ware 3 Angebur 1, Wingolte and Finchiey 5 Southell 0.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Bankle 1 Rocester 5, Blowich Town 3 Sandwell 1 Bridghorth 2 knypersky V 0, Kings Norton 0 Rushall 0 o Oktobuy U 1 Stagerful 2. Polsall V 2 Stratford T 0, Pershore T 1 Boldnere St M 2, Shirtal T 1 Chasetown 4, Wednessled 3 Halcowen H 0; W Mid Police 0 Welenhall 0. MORTHERN COUNTIES BAST IEAGUE
Premier division: Curzon Ashlon 0 Mattoy
MW 0, Denaby 3 Selby 0; Eccleshii 0
Trugsley 2; Glaschoughton: Weltare 2
Amod 2; Hatlam 5 Sheffield 1: Haffield Man
2 Brigg 4, Hucknall 5 Ponteiract Cols 4;
Liverscoge 0 Casett Albicis; 3, North Femby
3 Amonope Welfare 1, Ossett Town 3
Pickaring 0

EMDSLETCH INSURANCE MODIANO COMBINATION: Premier division: Bolehill Swits 1 Highgore & Colessel & Handrahan Timbers 2 Daniel Lloyd AFC 0 Mair KA 1. Dudgy Sports 4 Alvechurch 4, GPT (Coventry) & Watershir 4 Kenévorth 2 Continental Star 4; Kings Heath 4 Cheshir Hay 2, Welleshoume 1 Coventry Sphinx 6. Postponed: Studiey Bkl, v Massey Ferguson Presidents cup: Coletts Green & Fockenham 3.

UHLS PORT UNITED COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenitice 1
Buclangham 0: Ford Sports 2 Desborough
2: Hobbach 2 Yaday 2: Potton 2 Long
Buckby 0; St Neots 0 Stamford 2; Spelding
1 N Spancar 1; Stottod 7 Bourse 0.
Woodon 1 Boston 6, Postponed: M
Blackstone v Welfingborough. Stackstone v Weilingborrugh.
JEWSON EASTERN GOUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premier division: Cleation 0 By
4: Petestone Port and 0 Des 0, Harwich
and Parkeston 0 Whotham 4: Stowmented 1
Falentern 1: Studbury 1 Stowmented 1
Falentern 1: Studbury 1 Stowmented Great Yarmouth v Sudbury Wanderers; Histori v
Gordeston, Loweston v Harenseed Times v
Normanded 1

Namerand

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE Frost devision: AFC Newbury 0 Lymington 1; Andover 2 Wimborne 2; Brockenhust 3 East Cowes 0; Downton 1 Eastfeligh 0; Gosport 1 Aerostructures 2; Romsey 1 Portsmouth RN 4; Tratchern 0 Bementon Heath Heat 1; Whitchurch 3 BAT 0. Postponed: Boumernouth v Cowes Sports. COMPLETE MUSIC HEILENIC LEAGUE Premier division: Bicester 1 Highworth 2; Endsleigh 3 Dudoot 4; Fantord 2 Banbury 2; Endsleigh 3 Dudoot 4; Fantord 2 Banbury 0; Endsleigh 2 Almondsbury 1; Shortwood 5 Carterton 1; Swindon Supermarine 3 Bunham 2; Tuffley 1 Abagdon 1 Sumham 2: Tuffley I Abrogdon 1

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS
LEAGUE: Premier division south:
Amenham Town I Besconsteld 1: Brook
House I Barlengside 1; Hanwell Town 0
Britischwin Flovers 2: Russip Manor 3
Hangigy Boro 2: Woodbed Town 2
Hallingdon Birca 3: Postponect St
Margaretsbury v Herefield Utd. Premier division north: Langford I Bedford Utd. 1,
Latchworth 1 Buckingham Affiliatic 3:
London Colney I Brache Spatts 2: Millington Keynes 1 Hoddesdon Town 0: Potters Bar
Town 0 Harpender Town 0: Toddington
Rovers 0 Royston Town 4: Welym Garden
City 4 Biggleswade Town 2 O'Brien
Sutchers Challenge Trophy: Fourth
round: Postponed: Waltham Abbey v
Holmer Green; Coddosters v Aresey Town

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF WALES: Abenyshwifi 3
Bangor City 1, Bany 4 Caemerion 0:
Camass Ynys Mon 2 Caesswe 4; Welshpool
0 inter Cablo-Tel 2
PRESS 8 JOURNAL HIGHLAND
LEAGUE: Buckie Thistie 0 Deveronvale 4,
Cachnacuddin 4 Fort William 0; Bign 16
Loseismouth 0; Fornes Mechanics 0 Nalm
County 2: Peterhead 0 Fraerburgh 1; Wick
Academy 2: Brora 1 Prostponed: Cove v
Hurthy: Natth v Rothes.
SMIRNOFF RISH LEAGUE; Premier division: Citronville 2 Ards 2; Coleraine 2
Portadown 0, Crusaders 3 Baltymona 4;
Gleravon 1 Glontoren 0; Linfeld 0 Omagh
0 First division; Bengor 0 Linsavardy 0;
Destilery 1 Camek 0; Oungarnon Swifts 4
Baltyclare 5, Larne 0 Newry 2.
FAI HARP: Premier division: Derry City 0 Ballyctaire 5, Lamo 0 Newny 2.

FAI HARP: Premier division: Derry City 0 Stigo Rovers 0. Kalkenny City 1 Sonemans 1.

FAI WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National divisions FAI Horp Lagor XI 3 Transmore Rov Ladies 0. Everton 4 Liverpool 1 Postponed: Milwall Lonesses v Wernbley, Northern division: Bluowich 0 fixeston 11: Coverny 3 Arnold 1; Wolverhampton 2 Hucdersheld 0. Postponed: Aston Ville v Stroff Wod Southern division: Joseph 1 Langlond 2, Leyton Oment 0 Brighton and Hove 5, Southernpton Sants 1 Whitehawk 1; Wimblodon 4 Three Bridges 1

POOLS CHECK FORECAST: Half-time: no claims required — witnings sent automatically — forecast is low ten score draws and 17 no-score draws. Paul-time no claims required — laveast a very good. Soven score draws and five no-score draws and five no-score



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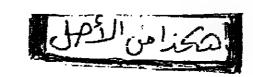
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Kinkladze shows City the route to revival

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lanchester City. Middlesbrough.

BY IVO TENNANT

FORGET about the theatre of dreams. For once, Maine Road was a venue where a Mancunian need not have experienced constraint or deflation. Manchester City beat the leaders of the Nationwide League first division with a performance of such vim and gusto as to make their form throughout this season appear

City's victory was assured midway through the first half. That, at least, was the estimation of Bryan Robson. Was quite a compliment from one who remains steeped in Manchester United's cause — and who as player and manager had never before tasted defeat against City. His team, sup-posedly fashioned in his own image, - to say nothing of a number of skills - that was apparent early in the

It need hardly be said that Kinkladze, returning after injury, was the most influential person on the pitch. He created City's second goal, quite brilliantly, and was altogether worthy of the opinion of Dennis Tueart, their former winger and new director, that he is one of the best players in the world. As yet, though, no manager has succeeded in building a team around

City, of course, have been without Rösler for three months and that, koster for three months and that, after scoring 52 goals in the past three seasons, is not the least of the reasons for their predicament. He stored their first goal on Saturday, from the penalty spot, and made all the right noises about being supportive of Frank Clark, the City manager. He has treated me with great courtery. has treated me with great courtesy

and understanding and I will do everything I can to help him be a success," Rüsler said.

The centre forward had missed one reasonable chance, as well as provid-



the penalty came about after 16 minutes. Russell, in spite of failing to control the ball on the edge of the Middlesbrough penalty area, was sent sprawling by the appropriately named Stamp and Rösler thumped his penalty kick past Schwarzer without any impoeries.

Fineen minutes later. City were two goals to the good. One of Kinkladze's characteristics is to entice defenders into making challenges that he can whip past with sleight of foot and dip of shoulder. Little wonder, then, that none was forthcoming when he sidled into Middlesbrough's penalty area and, instead of shooting, dragged the ball back to Dickov, whose shot took a deflection past Schwarzer.

Where were Middlesbrough? Somnambulists, the lot of them. Merson, who was watched by Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, did not provide a pass of any merit until 12 minutes from the end. There was no Emerson.

and all three chances they created fell to Stamp, who compounded a woeful day by missing one after another. Their followers responded by taking out their ire on the home supporters behind one of the corner flags. "I had a good record against City before now," Robson said ruefully.

For all that, Middlesbrough are still the leaders and City remain near the foot of the table. Their next home match is against Nottingham Forest and, if they can bring off another victory, can countenance a less lean new year than hitherto had seemed likely. That, of course, is assuming they can resolve whether Francis Lee comes or goes, who buys which shares, whether Maine Road will still

MANCHESTER CTTY (4-4-2) T Wingtr — R Edghil, K Symons, G Wakers, M Shoila — G Bennan G Kritichire, M Brewn, C Husself — P Dickov U Rosler MIDDLESSROUGH (4-4-2) M Schwarzer — C Formur, G Festa N Peerson, C Harmon (sub 'R Maccie, 45thm) — P Sterno, M Summerbell (sub 'R Maccie, 45thm) — P Sterno, M Summerbell (sub 'R Maccie, 35thm) — P Sterno, M Summerbell (sub 'R Maccie, 35thm) — P Sterno, M Summerbell (sub 'R Maccie, 35thm) — P Sterno, C Hignett (sub'r S Vichers, 631 — M Barch, P Merson

Heart of Midlothian on Saturday. Rangers ransacked the Edinburgh club's store of

dition in

football, but

the rituals

involve acts

of confisca-

tion rather

wrapping of

With their 5-2 defeat of

presents.

Scottish

The year is in the habit of ending with that sort of deed in the Bell's Scottish League premier division. At the mid-point of a season. the Old Firm has often been ruthless in putting down insurrections. Hearts, who had been leading the table, now lie behind both Rangers and Celtic, who swatted Hibernian 5-0. It is still possible for Hearts to take the title, but those who retain such hopes will express them quietly,

The previous admiration for Hearts was not misplaced and even while being trounced by Rangers they still mustered enough spirit to make chances of their own. They could only be perceived as contenders for the title, however, so long as

the Old Firm remained enmediocrity and inconsistency.

Rangers may now tangled

Rangers were without Andy Goram, Richard Gough, Jones Thern and Paul Gascoigne, while Brian Laudrup was fit enough only to appear as a late substitute. Their absence, paradoxically, provided the basis for a show of strength. Gordon Durie scored a hat-trick and Jorg Albertz, whose goal from 25 yards provided the crescendo to his performance, was

the best player on the field. Neither would have featured if Rangers had not been beset by injuries and other disruptions. The dread that Walter Smith's squad had planted in oppopast few months, but it could be about to flourish again. It remains for Rangers to prove that they can regularly tap their obvious potential.

Hearts, hounded and outplayed, will still believe that they might have staunched the resurgence. Rangers



Gilles Rous-

Hearts goal-

made an ir-

keeper,

set.

KEVIN McCARRA Scottish

commentary

the corner flag and moving away from the target. He felled the forward and Marco Negri converted the pen-alty in the 69th minute. Rino Gattuso, the Rangers midfield player, was sent off for a second bookable offence a few moments later, but his team still gave the impres-sion of outnumbering the

At Tynecastle, all the same, there is satisfaction to be found in the fact that falling two points behind the leaders is taken as a cue for distress. Elsewhere in Edinburgh, despondency still has an old-fashioned guise. Having shamed themselves at Celtic Park. Hibernian are left to look back on a run of 13 matches

into the net. ding is not expected to be many cheap signings in the past couple of seasons and is in the position of a man

rational attempt to snatch the ball from the Durie, who was facing

without a victory. Celtic's display patchy, but whenever they seemed to be stumbling through the script, Hibernian were swift to prompt

them with a

helpful er-

ated in the

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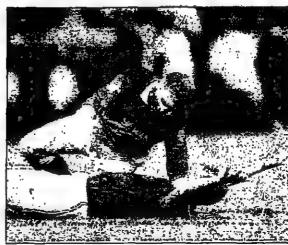
half and

goalkeeper that left Henrik Larsson to stroll Celtic's fourth goal Attention, though, should fall on a general poverty of standard. Hibernian are eager to receive offers for many of their players. Bid-

intense. The club has made buying regular lottery tick-ets in the belief that he is bound to strike it rich eventually. Failure is bad enough, but

the apparent lack of a strategy to dispel it is even more dispiriting for supporters. in those circumstances, ciubs often settle for the dramatic gesture. Jim Duffy, the latest manager to grapple with Hibernian's problems, was appointed almost a year ago, but he must wonder if his future will extend much beyond

that anniversary.



Albertz congratulates Durie on his hat-trick

FOOTBALL: PENALTY BY PEACOCK ENOUGH TO SECURE FIRST VICTORY FOR NEW QPR MANAGER

Harford enjoys a little home comfort

Queens Park Rangers ... 1. Bradford City

By BRIAN GLANVILLE.

THE STATE OF

CHRIS WRIGHT, the Queens Park Rangers chairman, unexpectedly came into the press-room after the game to congratulate his new manag-er, Ray Harford. Presumably it was meant as a gesture of solidarity. QPR, after all, had just attained their first win. under Harford, even though it was a meagre one achieved through a penalty.

This was given after ZI minutes, when Spencer turned in the area and, challenged by Wilder, fell histrionically to earth. Peacock took the kick with more force than finesse. Walsh, the Bradford City goalkeeper, got a hand to the ball, but could not stop it, despite another desperate dive, from

soinning over the line. Should it have been a penalty? With honesty worthy of the festive season, Chris Kamara, "I saw it on Sky and it looked a penalty. Spencer shifted the ball to the side and Wilder

made contact with him." Harford, for his part, said hat he had not looked at the incident on television. The referee gave it. We take whatever we get," he said. Which, at the moment, is not very much. Harford was justified in saying: "The first quarter of the second haif, I thought some of our play was excellent. We didn't punish them as milch as we should have done. Then, when the fire went out, the other team thought they

had a chance." Walsh had a lot to do with the fact that QPR did not score. again. He was lucky, three minutes into the second half, when a long shot by Sinclair. who was by turns incisive and frustrating, rebounded from

in the next minute, Walsh beat down a drive by Sheron. Two minutes later, when Sinclair brushed past his man from the right, Walsh blocked that shot, too. From the corchance, but shot too high.

Edinho, the Brazilian on as a substitute, had Bradford's first accurate attempt on goal in the 64th minute, but his header, from Wilder's rightwing cross, was easy for Roberts: A quarter of an hour later, when Small sent the ball over from the other wing, Edinho headed just over the bar, to the displeasure of his manager. "The one good chance we had," Kamara said, "you expect the Brazilian to score. Free header in the box. unfortunately, it doesn't go

But the outstanding save o the match, just before half-time, was surely by Walsh. A nest move on the left, between Spencer and Sheron, was fa-climated when Small missed the ball. Quashie's fierce drive was turned over the top by the gnalkeeper.

Managers have their own way of seeing things and Kamara, in this instance, said: "As far as possession was concerned, we had the lion's share, but we didn't have that quality around the box. They're a counter-attacking team. I told the lads that, before the game. We were comfortable until the penalty." In fact, QPR quite dominated the first period of the second haif, when counter-attack was

the last thing on their minds. Their new purchase from Bradford, George Kulcsar, an Australian of Hungarian origin, was on the field for no more than 25 minutes. Harford said: "We need someone who can sit there and control that position. He can do that. He's a really good passer of a

This we must take on trust for the moment. Good passers. of a ball would certainly beln a OPR team that is still striving

CLEER FANK RANGERS H--21 Roberts — S Yates, D Madder, K Ready, R Brevets — T Sincher, T Kulczer (Sub. P. Munsy, 25rdn.), G Pencock, N Quantitie — M Sheron (sub: K Gatter, 77), J Spencer.
BRADFORD CITY (3-5-2) G West — C Wilder, E Youds, A O'Brien — J Lewisness (sub: R Blates, 67), N Peppair, S Munsy, P Beagrie — R Storier (sub: Edithin, 60), J McGirlay (sub: C Ramage, 67).



Taylor spoils Bournemouth's party

By Bni EDGAR

TREVOR WATKINS may lack the sporting prowess of Matthew Le Tissier. Southampton's perennial saviour from relegation, but his own rescue act at nearby Bournemouth has impressed BBC South viewers enough to make him their novel choice of Sports Personality of the Year. Watkins became Bournemouth chairman last summer. when he and other fans turned a club facing the last financial rites into one that they proclaim as unique in Europe in being community-owned.

A revivalist spirit has carried Bournemouth to midtable respectability in the Nationwide League second division, but, predictably, it could not stop an irresistible Watford inflicting a first defeat in nine home games on Bournemouth: The result was fully appreciated by Graham Taylor, the victorious manager, who said: "It was a very good win. Bournemouth are a club that nearly went under. club from within the community, people who love the club. A

cause at a club can be a great driving force." Watford's own cause of automatic promotion looks almost certain to be achieved. The ruthless leaders have shown contempt for their rivals in the second division and have marched away at the top of the table with Bristol City. to leave a battle for play-off places among the closely bunched teams way beneath them. This victory increased their lead to 18 points over third-placed Oldham, who occupy the first play-off position.

Taylor assessed the new table and declared: "Sixteen wins out of 23 is a first-class achievement for us. You have to say Watford and Bristol City are the best sides and among the rest of them anything can happen."

The visiting fans scented three points when they greeted the award of a 58th-minute free kick on the edge of the Bournemouth area as though it were a penalty. Peter Kenne dy is a set-piece specialist and was the reason for their optimism. He duly obliged by sending the ball curling be-yond Jimmy Glass, the goalkeeper, for his tenth goal of the

Kennedy, a Northern Ire-land B international wing back, who, on Saturday, took the roving forward's role nor-mally filled by the injured Ronnie Rosenthal, was signed by Taylor for just £130,000 from Notts County. "This boy

can play in quite a lot of different positions and he's done very well for us," Taylor Mel Machin, the Bourne-

mouth manager, revealed: "I said at half-time we mustn't give free kicks away on the edge of the area. They were very dangerous from deadball positions." Taylor is already eyeing the

record of his all-conquering Lincoln City side in 1975-76, who would have gained 106 points in the old fourth division had a win earned three instead of two. At the halfway stage Watford are on course to match that exactly. Such targets may soon be all that remain to interest them.

BOURINEMOUTH (4-4-2): J Gines — N Young, I Cox, E Howe, J Vincert — J Bailey S Roberson, P Teather I sub: F Rolling, Strains, J O'Neal (sub. J Hernington, 81) — S Fletcher, C Warren WATFORD (4-3-1-2), A Chamberlen — N Gabos, R Page, K Milnen, T Mooney — M Hyde R Johnson, P Roberson — P Narmady — J Lee, G Noel-Williams, Referee: E Lonais.

Allardyce diet provides cure for relegation hangovers

Notts County2

By DAVID POWELL

NOTTS County have moved clear at the top of the Nation-wide League third division and, at the halfway mark in the season, already they are nine points up on their haul from the whole of the last campaign. New season, new ream? Not really. More a change in approach.

In six seasons, County have slipped from the highest of the four divisions to the lowest. relegated last May as the second division's bottom club. By the time Sam Allardyce arrived as manager in January, the third division was beckoning and he could not save them. This season, though, he has made winners out of losers. The team is largely unchanged.

"It is the training methods and eating habits that the gaffer has brought in that has made the difference," Darren Ward, the goalkeeper, said after the win on Saturday.

Not the most appropriate time, perhaps, for Ward to bring up the subject of food but dietary advice had, he insisted, played a significant part, along with twice a day training, in raising the players' fitness levels. Last weekend Ward went

out for a family meal and, soon afterwards, most of the party fell ill. He is awaiting the result of tests to discover whether it was food poisoning. However, as the only professional goalkeeper at the club, he had to play in the midweek FA Cup defeat by Presson North End. "I was feeling drained with nothing inside me," he said. Against Torquay, he celebrated feeling

well again in splendid style. Sean Farrell scored the goals but Ward was no less influential. Torquay, after three successive League wins, were repelled by nine notable saves from Ward. Saves I would expect to make, breadand-butter stuff," he suggested. Just can't stop thinking

about food, can he? Some were elementary, such as those that kept out

Gittens: Others, however, were more brandy butter than bread and butter.

As Torquay sought to cancel out Farrell's minute-minute goal from an angled drive, Ward was alert to the danger posed by a pass from Watson to Hill, rushing out to block the volley. Caught off his line when Hapgood tried his luck from 40 yards, Ward scurried back to tip over.

From a rare County attack Farrell scored again, firing in Finnan's cross after 72 minutes. Still Torquay refused to concede but Ward again displayed athleticism to keep out Gurney's volley. Poor Torquay. They had gone to all that trouble decorating the game with colourful lights only to find Ward keeping their hands off the switch.

TOROLAY LRITTED (3-5-2): K Veyeay — J Gitters, A Watson, J Robinson — A Gurrey, L Happood (sub: S Tully, 82min), P Mitchell, C Leadbiter, K Hill (mitr J Robests, 57) — R Jeck, Wilhornes.

NOTTS COUNTY (4-4-2). D Ward — 1
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— M Robson (sub: A Klaromye, 70). S
Deny, I Baraclough, S Finnen — 5 Fameli
gab: P Robinson, 82). G Jones (sub: G
lampings M Fedice.

Kendall plans to make French connection

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

France striker, is expected to sign for Everton. Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, confirmed yesterday that negotiations for a free transfer were at an advanced stage and the Deportivo La Cortina player is only waiting for clearance from the Spanish club before flying to Mersey-side to join the FA Carling Premiership strugglers.

"We have opened negotiations with the player and the club," Kendall said. "We are waiting for confirmation from Deportivo that he is available, as we understand, on a free transfer." Madar could be signed and

cleared in time to be in the squad for Everton's next match, away to Manchester United on Boxing Day. Kendall flew to Spain to watch the 29-year-old France international on Thursday

and was not - as widely reported — at the game with Valencia to spy on the latter's highly rated Croatian forward, Goran Vlaovic. Everton have been led to

MICKAEL MADAR, the believe that a clause is written into Madar's contract allowing him to leave for nothing when he wants to. It is an unusual arrangement, but Kendall said: "It exists because Deportivo had a Brazilian coach who brought in a lot of his own players, and Madar was pushed down the pecking order a bit. Then he had a serious injury last on and has only just got

> Bernard Lama, the Paris Saint-Germain goalkeeper, has agreed to join West Ham United on loan, Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, moved quickly after losing Ludek Miklosko for eight weeks with a knee injury. Lama is likely to make his debut in the home match against Coventry City on Boxing Day.

back into the team."

Terry Venables, the former England coach at present in charge of Australia, is among the candidates being considered by South Africa to replace Clive Barker, their coach, who resigned at the

of Rushden to be deflected Rushden and Diamonds 2

By WALTER GAMMIE

RUSHDEN and Diamonds, having lost 3-1 to Hayes on their own patch just three weeks earlier and suffered defeat at their hands in the Spalding Cup in October, were bothered and occasionally bewitched by their hosts in the first half of a lively Vauxhall Conference contest

at Church Road on Saturday. Hayes produced some sparklingly sharp midfield play and Mark Hall conjured a goal with a beautifully judged chip in the 29th minute. Yet Rushden managed to catch their breath and construct a fine goal in firsthalf stoppage time that can-celled out Hayes's efforts and went on to claim a victory they clearly relished. Mison weighted a perfect pass for-ward for Collins to run on and steer the ball past the right hand of the advancing Meara.

The goal pointed the way for

Rushden to produce incisive

interchanges of their own, that made them a new force at the start of the second half, and they stood the match on its head by going into the lead in

Hackett emphasises refusal

Collins, a key player in Rushden's rise and not one likely to be shovelled through the revolving door at Nene Park that has seen Brian Talbot, their head coach, use 35 players this season, helped to create the goal. A surging run carried him to the byline, Hamsher, in support, delivered the ball to West - on loan from Leyton Orient - and he squared a pass on the edge of the penalty area to Hackett, whose shot came to rest in the net after cannoning in off both

Hayes's determination to work their way back into the match saw them lift the tempo even higher and Mick Thorpe. the referee, felt that an increasing undercurrent of niggling justified a rash of yellow cards that soared to a count of seven

(5-2 to Rushden). Although Sparks hooked over an open goal after Smith. under pressure, dropped a

corner, the Rushden defence. which features a familiar figure in Whyte, 36, the former Arsenal and Leeds United player, largely restricted Hayes to shots from distance as Hall tried to emulate, and Haynes to copy, his first-half goal.

The urgency with which Talbot paced the touchline jabbing at his watch as the referee discovered five minutes' stoppage time, and the whistle, indicated how important Rushden considered their

With Kettering Town, their local rivals, doing them an unexpected favour by winning 3-1 at Morecambe and Hednesford Town ending Halifax's 100 per cent home record after a 1-1 draw before a crowd of 3,338 at The Shay, they moved a fraction closer to the final summit.

HAYES (3-5-2), R Meara — A Wetts (sub. C Boothe, 83mm), C Sparks, N Bunce — J Brady, D Williamson, N Roddis, M Hag, L Flynn — B Hammett (sub: J Haynes, 69), M Randall

Hangai, N. And DIAMONDS (4-1-2): M. Smath — T. Wooding D. Bradshaw, C. Whyte, J. Hansher — J. Capone, M. Mason, G. Butlenworth, B. Hackett, — D. Collens, C. West Patiente, M. Thoppe.

Graveney must quickly grasp captaincy nettle



Hollioake: convincing

dam Hollioake may not be the solution to the identifying an heir to the England Test-match captaincy. He may not even be a genuine Test-match player. But in remarkably short time he has demonstrated convincing leadership credentials in what must now be considered the separate game of one-day cricket. His future, and there-by that of Michael Atherton,

nust be immediately defined. While Hollioake was supervising England's desert spe-cialists in the final of the Champions Trophy on Friday, Atherton was flying off on holiday, unsure of his role - if any - in future England oneday teams. As he remains captain of his country, at least in the cricket that matters most, this is a situation that must not be allowed to fester.

The sensible course of action, evidently already in the mind of David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, is the swift and decisive one. Now that the Sharjah party is home, Atherton should be contacted in Jamaica and told that he is in charge of the West Indies tour until the five Tests should then pass temporarily

of five one-day internationals.
It is an unorthodox arrangement. Until recently, it would have been regarded as bizarre and unworkable. That, however, was while England were labouring under the misapprehension that one-day cricket could be conducted with the same players and a similar approach to the five-day variety. This, combined with a shamefully inadequate prepa-ration period and the obsolete

back to Hollioake for the series

Alan Lee says there should be no delay in confirming roles for Adam Hollic ake and Michael Atherton

tactical notions of Raymond Illingworth, then team manager, helps to explain the lameness of England's cricket in the last World Cup. Hollioake's accession, 18 months before the next competition, would be a serious mark of intent that things will be different this time round.

Certain points need stressing. England have not suddenly become one-day wonders under the thoroughly modern Hollicake. The Sharjah sucvincing, needs to be seen in calm perspective. The absent Atherton, meanwhile, has not

suddenly become yesterday's man, not even so far as the one-day team is concerned. The three strongest one-day sides in the world - Sri Lanka, South Africa and Aus-

tralia - have not played in Sharjah. England's opponents there have recently completed Test series, which can often be more of a handicap than playing after a rest period. As England have so often discovered, taking a party chosen for Test cricket, with its inherent latigues and stresses, into an afterthought of a limited-overs event is usually a recipe for.

party, which showed by its unity and vibrancy every indication of forming the nucleus of a competitive World Cup challenge. When England pick a specific team for one-day cricket and enter such an arena unclustered of mind, they are pretty good at it --witness their exemplary record in the Texaco Trophy, which traditionally launches the home international season.

and specifically their 3-0 demolition of Australia in May. Nobody was questioning Atherton's leadership then, much less his batting. In the second match, at the Oval, he played with uninhibited conviction to make 113 not out in a run-chase. He can be an effective, stabilising force in a one-day game and bridles vhenever his record or input

ton deserves the right to challenge for a place in the one-day side, in the Caribbean and beyond. He has no wish to be among those dispatched home before the final fortnight of the tour and ideally, no doubt, he would prefer to remain in charge. However, so long as the decision is taken and explained, he will accept the logic and momentum of Hollicake's substitution.

It is more than simply a fresh face for a fresh challenge, more than mere cosmet-ics. Hollioake has shown an empathy with the particular demands of one-day cricket, a flair and enthusiasm that Atherton, steeped in the more solemn and profound business over five days, has sometimes lacked. Properly and sensitive ly managed, two captains really can be better than one.



CRICKET

Stewart's example sets course for one-day achievers

ENGLAND could not have achieved much more than they did at the Champions Trophy in Sharjah. Though Adam Hollioake, the captain, spoke freely of the mistakes they made, they won four games of competitive cricket against teams with more highly regarded players than their own and won them well. By any standards, the tournament was a triumph for the leader and the led.

It is possible to read too much into the result, so far as the forthcoming tour of West indies is concerned, because Test cricket in the Caribbean is vastly different to a one-day shebang in the Arabian desert. It is possible, also, to read too little into it. England established a good team spirit and played winning cricket with a smile. Several players returned home with their reputations enhanced.

First annong equals was Matthew Fleming, the Kent all-rounder, who was there only because Darren Gough was spending time at home with his family. Fleming's bowling helped to win the first ime, against inola, and his hatting and bowling did much to beat West Indies in the final. Never for a moment did he look fazed by his introduction to international cricket.

Dougie Brown, of Warwickshire, was another successful first-timer. Right from the start, in the two warm-up matches in Luhore before the tournament, his mind was fully on the job in hand. Twice

SOUTH AFRICA'S pace bowlers scythed through Aus-

tralia A's lower order at the

Gabba ground in Brisbane

yesterday to provide their side

with a timely confidence boost

ahead of the first Test against

Australia in Melbourne, start-

ing on Boxing Day. Lance Klusener and Shaun Pollock

took the last five wickets for 17

runs to dismiss the host

country's second-string side

ination with the bat and held a superb catch in the deep at an important stage of the Paki-stan match. He seemed to enjoy everything about the tour, short as it was, and won an A rating from those around

There were other excellent performances. Mark Ealham bowled with rejentless accuracy, never better than against Pakistan, when Seeed Anwar took 16 runs from his second over. Far from being defeated by this fine batsman's aggression, the Kent man refused to give Pakistan another hit.

Graham Thorpe batted with good sense, putting down a firm anchor on two occasions unbeaten half-centuries, and Hollioake led the side with a relaxed determination, if such a description is acceptable. Perhaps Graeme Hick



he took wickets in his first Fleming rose to challenge

while Pollock finished with four for 68, giving South

Africa a first-innings lead of

128 after they had declared at

458 for nine. The visitors extended their

advantage to 242 by the close

on the third day, scoring 114

for three in their second

innings. Bacher and Gary

Kirsten, the openers, went cheaply, but Cullinan re-

mained on 50 not out.

and Ally Brown would have liked to, but neither man held the others back and Hick's throwing from the deep was extremely impressive.

There was a man of the tournament, though, and it was not Carl Hooper, for all his runs and wickets. If such an award means anything, then surely it means the man who contributed more than anybody else to his team winning it, and that chap was undoubtedly Alec Stewart who, at the relatively advanced age of 34, is getting younger with the years.

As one of the two men absolutely certain of his place in both England sides, Thorpe being the other, Stewart faces a formidable task in the next couple of years. The fact that he keeps wicket and opens the batting, and keeps the team's engine ticking over with his enthusiasm, does nothing to diminish his role. But he never complains. He simply straps on his pads and does his best.

Stewart's hundred in the first game, against India, got England's tournament off to a flyer. He had a decisive hand later in that match, when he stumped Tendulkar, a pretty little dismissal to set beside his stumping of Brian Lara on Friday that was the sight of the week. When, years from now, he is snoozing by the fireside, and wondering whatever be-came of all those players he used to know, he can remember that wonderful moment in Sharjah, and their faces will

come back one by one.
In four matches Stewart conceded one bye, stood up to the medium-pacers, held catches, ran people out and effected those two essential stumpings. And he made runs, boldly, quickly and effectively. A year ago, when he was dropped by England, somebody wrote he was an international player in the past tense only. I am delighted to have been proved so thor-

oughly wrong. One or two of these players may fall by the wayside but most will go all the way to the World Cup in June 1999. The Champions Trophy marks the beginning of that journey and, even at this distance, the view looks remarkably clear.



Edwards celebrates the stumping of Suthershini Sivanantham by the England wicketkeeper, Jane Cassar

Edwards puts Sri Lanka in spin

Sri Lanka by nine wickets in Chandigarh yesterday to book their Da the semi-finals of the wom-

en's World Cup. There was never any doubt that England would defeat an inexperienced Sri Lanka side but, after their humbling at the hands of Australia in Nagpur last week, it was vital that they achieved victory here with a minimum of fuss

and plenty of overs to spare.
England benefited enormously from Sri Lanka's decision to bat first on winning the toss; not only did Sri Lanka consign themselves to batting when the pitch was at its liveliest, but it gave the England bowlers the opportunity to bowl first for the first time on this tour.

One criticism of England in their earlier matches has been a lack of urgency in the field. Here, though, Clare Taylor and Melissa Reynard underlined that, in the right conditions, England possess effective bowlers.

Taylor is an experienced campaigner and, as the ball swung prodigiously in humid conditions, she reined in her attacking instincts and FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN CHANDIGARIE

MOHALI SCOREBOARD

was rewarded for her patience with the wickets of the openers in her second and sixth overs.

Reynard had Rasanjali Silva all at sea three times in successive balls, defeating the left-hander's forward prod in her opening over. After a streaky edge between wicketkeeper and slip, Silva's luck ran out as she edged to Jan Brittin, who stooped low to take a wonderful reflex catch at slip, giving Reynard the first of two wickets in a spell

FRI LANKA
/ Rethispalier c Connor b Taylor
- 1 Fernando c Cassar b Taylor
- 3 de Salva c Britan lo Reynard
- 1 Horalafra run out
- 2 Horalafra run out
- 3 Horalafra run out
- 3 Horalafra run out
- 5 Horalafra run
- 5 Horal

Total (48.2 overs) 104
FALL OF WCKETS: 1-3, 2-27, 3-38, 4-46, 5-47, 6-67, 7-82, 8-91, 9-62
SOMLING, Taylor 106-17-2 Macleod 5-0-16-0, Reynard 9-5-10-2; Connor 7-2-1-18-1; Smithes 5-0-19-0; Edwards 7-0-21-3.

sought merely to control the that saw her concede only ten ns in nine overs. It was left to Charlotte Edwards to mop up the tail.

with her occasional leg breaks, although she was the first to admit that her haul of three wickets, all stumped, flattered her and was a reflection of Sri Lanka's inept batting. The only real con-cern for England was the inexcusable total of 26 wides in 43 overs shared among the

bowlers. A target of 105 was never likely to trouble England and Edwards was soon into her

S Metcalle "K Smithes, †J Cassar, K Leng, M Reynard, C Connor, L Macleod and C Taylor did not bet. FALL OF WICKET. 1-51

Umpires: Jasbir Singh and H Sekham.

DTHER MATCH: Lucinow: Australia 223-4 (8 Ceiver 74): Holland: 108-6. Australia win by 115 runs

Total (1 witt, 22.1 cears).

tributed only seven runs to a first-wicket partnership of 51. and as En victory, Edwards was doing with the bowling much as she

Her 57 not out took her

aggregate in this World Cup to 340 runs off 338 balls at an average of 113.33, the only blemish being a duck against Australia. As ever, though, Edwards was unfazed by her achievements. The seamers bowled well and they made it difficult early on, until I started knocking it about that is," she said. "Sri Lanka will be a good side in a few

Today, however, Sri Lanka are not a good side and though England could have done little more, they will know that a semi-final in Madras on Boxing Day, most probably against New Zealand, who play Ireland to-morrow, will be a different

proposition India and South Africa battle if out today for the right to meet Australia, who defeated Holland in their quarter final on Saturday, in the other semi-final in Guwahati on Wednesday.

Shah jets in to lead misfiring England

FROM JOHN STERN IN PORT ELIZABETH

OWAIS SHAH, the Middle-🗓 sex batsman, will captain England Under-19 today against South Africa Schools Colts at the township ground of Zwide here after arriving in the

country yesterday afternoon. Shah, 19, has missed the first three weeks of the tour in order to complete his first term at university in North London. With the second four-day international against South Africa Under-19 just after Christmas, this one-day game

and another tomorrow against South Africa Schools are important both for Shah's own preparation as a batsman and his authority as captain of the i5-strong party.

He takes over as captain

from Paul Franks, the Not-

tinghamshire seam bowier, and Joe Tucker, of Somerset, has returned home, having been in South Africa both as Shah's replacement and as cover for fast-bowling injuries. An immediate impact with bat from Shah is both desirable and expected because the batting has been the most disappointing aspect of the NatWest-sponsored tour so far. Having drawn their three three-day games and the first international. England lost their first limited-overs match of the trip on Saturday by three wickets to South Africa Students: Only Robert Key, of Kent, made more than 19 and he batted excellently for any unbeaten 105 out of 194 all out? a score which was never likely to be enough although the off spinners, Jonathan Powell and Graeme Swann, at least made the students work for

their victory. The position was similar the day before, when England forced a draw in the three-day game against the students. Graham Napier, the feisty Essex all-rounder, made a century, yet no other batsman made more than 13.

"Most of the batsmen have made a score but it is worrying that we haven't yet clicked as a batting unit," John Abrahams.

the coach, said. The players know themselves what is required of them and they can explain what they're doing wrong but they haven't yet been able to put it right. Owais is our most experienced batsman so if he can set a standard, then, hopefully, others will follow."

Scoreboard, page 38

CYCLING

Klusener and Pollock

serve notice for Test

Elliott approaching the end of the road

By PETER BRYAN

MALCOLM ELLIOTT, one of year later and victory in the only two men to win the Milk Race and the Kellogg's Tour, has also been one of Britain's most successful road riders abroad, especially in Spain and the United States. Now, at the age of 30 and

after the collapse of his team in the United States, the Sheffield rider is facing possible retirement - but it is not a decision he will take irrevocably.
"There's some truth in the

rumour that I might retire but I haven't made a firm decision yet," he said yesterday. "There are a couple of leads I am following up and, until they are resolved one way or the other, I won't consider myself

Elliott holds the Milk Race record for the number of stage victories (17) in the event that he won overall in 1987. He followed up with an outright win in the Kellogg's race a

tour of Spain points competition, plus two stages, in 1988.
If next year is to be Elliott's last in competition, he would like to go out with a winning ride in the new nine-day Prutour, which ends in central London on May 31.

Graeme Obree, another for mer champion on the comeback truil to international competition, produced a fast turn of speed - for this time of the year - to win the Fullation Wheelers ten-mile time-trial at Irvine yesterday.

Obree wanted "to sneak under" his own Scoriish record of 19min 29sec, which he set last September, and was slightly disappointed with his time yesterday of 19min 46sec. He did, however, leave the rest of the field trailing in his wake by nearly three minutes.

HOCKEY: ALDOUS AND MCALLEN PROVE TOO STRONG FOR ASHFORD

Harleston achieve peak performance

LIZZIE ALDOUS and Debbie McAllen each scored a brace to help Harleston Magpies to a 5-1 win against Ashford and into pole position in the East Super League. The victory enabled the former National League team to go into the Christmas break two points clear of St Albans, who have a

match in hand. Aldous and McAllen were each on target with first-half goals. Ashford hit back to reduce the deficit after the interval, but Harleston regained the initiative. Sharon Davies hammered in a penalty corner to put Harleston 3-1 ahead and, after McAllen drove home her second, Aldous converted a lastminute penalty corner to make

Sarah-Jane Sedgwick, the Sevenouks captain, netted her forneth league goal, and her first for two seasons, when she hit a second-half winner in her ream's 2-1 victory over Welwyn Garden City, who remain stranded at the bottom of the By Cathy Harris

table. Julie Evans gave Welpast the startled Welwyn goalwyn an early lead before Cathy Gilliat-Smith levelled keeper. In the West, St Austell the scores with a spectacular extended their run at the head goal in the reventieth minute, of the table, moving four her reverse-stick shot flying points clear of Exmouth after a

Tigers leave it late to earn their stripes

TIGERS BARFORD emerged as winners of the Midlands indoor club championship after an 8-7 victory over Stourport at Wyre Forest Glades Arena, Kidderminster, yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes).

At half-time Stourport led 5-3 and they went 7-6 ahead with five minutes to go. But Tigers hit back in a late flurry. with Jasbinder Chana scoring the winning goal. Barford and Stourport have

qualified for the preliminary

round of the EHA indoor cup

on January 10 and 11. The East will have three teams in this round. St Albans, as holders, Old Loughtonians and Chelmsford on the basis of results from last season. In competitions yesterday, Doncaster and Hull qualified from the northern area, Isca and Bath Buccaneers from

the western division. Old Loughtonians retained the East super league title after they won all six matches in the round-robin series that

2-0 win at Exeter. Fran Ripley, the St Austell captain, re-ferred to their opponents as "local rivals", even though the journey requires a round trip of nearly three hours. The Cornish club has never finished better than fifth in the

league and Ripley concedes that success this season is due to a combination of new signings and an excellent spirit, thanks to lengthy journeys spent travelling together to Newcomers, Linda Webb

and Sam Buckingham, who has recently returned to the club after serving with the British Army in Bosnia, have quickly made their mark to form an effective partnership. Webb applied the finishing touch to give her side a 2-0 cushion in the second half, after a superb move with Heather Tilsley. Tammy Messenger had set up Ripley to crack in the opening

Results, page 38

ATHLETICS

Radcliffe loses out to Wami on final lap

By Our Sports Staff

ed an Ethiopian clean sweep of the top five places in the first leg of the IAAF World Cross Challenge in Brussels yester-day, but the Briton could not prevent Gete Warni from winning the women's sixkilometre race in 20min 45sec. Wami and Raddiffe battled alone up front until the Ethiopian broke away on the final lap to win by three seconds. Radcliffe finished second while Sally Barsosio, the prerace favourite and the world 10,000-metres champion, from

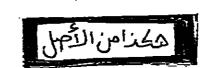
Kenya, came sevenih. James Moiben, a littleknown Kenyan, won the men's race when he, too, pulled away with a lap to run. He was followed home by two other Kenyans, Thomas Nyariki and Paul Kosgei. Casten Jorgensen, the European champion, was fifth

and Keith Cullen was the

PAULA RADCLIFFE prevent- first Briton home, in sixth The Great Britain shot internationals, Judy Oakes and Mark Proctor, boosted their chances of competing in the European indoor champion-ships in Valencia next year by

achieving the qualifying standard at the Puma indoor meeting at Crystal Palace. Oakes, 39, who holds the record for the number of British international vests, surpassed the 17.80-metres qualifying mark with a winning effort of 18.14m for

Croydon. Proctor, of Newham and Essex Beagles, looked even more convincing as he threw 20.18m with his opening attempt. His throw was not only better than the 18.90m (qualifying standard but also broke the stadium record of



Shah

Pleasures and perils of recorded highlights

hether it was a sea-sonal surfeit of late nights or Frank Warren telling Radio 4's Today programme that Nascem Hamed's latest bout was primarily about "introducing him to America", but for one reason or another I decided that the goings on at Madison Square Garden could carry on without me. Live, anyway — I would watch the highlights package, two showings of which the next morning were included in my pre-booked 19.95 package. I'd paid my money and now I was making

BSkyB admits it has little idea of how many people do the same each time a pay-perview, fight-night comes along.

research apparently exists to tell how many people who have pre-booked the bout watch it live at some outlandish hour or do the sensible but unexciting thing of watching a

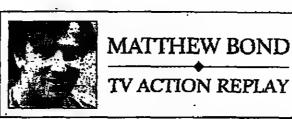
It might be worth the satel-life channel finding out though, especially if the viewing patterns follow those experienced by Channel 5 last month, when it showed the Holyfield-Moorer contest. Some 225,000 watched it live, according to unaudited figures, despite a time difference that ensured it wasn't over well-scheduled recording s cured an audience of 400,000.

If that pattern was anything

guests a little more heavyweight and indeed familiar than John Thaxton and Richie. Woodhall

But at least Dominik Holyer, taking over from a presumably exhausted Paul Dempsey, didn't hang about A few pleasantries with his guests and it was straight over McCrory for the main event. For an extraordinarily long time this looked like consisting of Hamed silhouetted behind

Darke explained that Home Box Office (HBO), the Amerion the ring walk being cut



minutes passed and McCrory ran out of ways of saying "America has never seen anything like this before" you got the feeling that things were still not going entirely to plan. Harned shadow-boxed, then he shadow-shimmied a bit and, after what seemed like ages, sensibly shadow-stood still. But eventually he pushed through the sheet (there were rumours that it should have

هكذا من الإمل

his way awkwardiy down a steep ramp towards the ring. The artist formerly unknown as Prince (a brilliant line that Darke generously attributed to its American originator) had arrived.

The contest, of course, was terrific and the coverage wasn't bad either. HBO had some wonderfully accurate replays for between the rounds and Darke and McCrory showed that they are perfectly burst into flames) and made

many people watch Harned to see him lose as win. "It's an unpalatable truth, but at the moment Hamed is being outboxed." Darke said lastiviously in the second round. Two rounds, a few inter-

riews and a bit more chat with

hall later, the highlights went straight into Jones against McKinney, another great bout. It was after this that things began to go wrong, as Sky tried to salvage something from the wreckage of Friday night's card at the London Arena. You knew something was up when they didn't start with the top-of-the-bill bout between Robin Reid and Thulane Malinga, but with the horribly bloody encounter

watched over a late breakfast. If these were the highlights, it was an evening well beyond being rescued by the reliably honest Simon Reed and his cocommentator, Jim Watt. Sky. not a channel one associates with restraint, started its cov-

erage of the Reid contest ... from the eighth round. Recorded highlights are normally best when you don't exceptions. Sky, for instance, reported a big, morning-after demand for the second Holyfield v Tyson bout once news spread of the famous ear-biting incident. Then there are highlights, such as Grand-stand's coverage of the cricket

through can't quite believe it. Perhaps it was all in the editing, but for most of the very welcome 50 minutes of highlights on Saturday it looked as if West Indies were certain to win. Cutaway shots to a sun-bathing Sally Gunnell and placards improbably wishing us "Happy Crissmiss" there were aplenty, but of Matthew Fleming's vital 33 runs there was almost no sign

By the end we had still managed to win but even Rider looked surprised. "A final which certainly had its tensions as far as England was concerned." And its eccentrici-

'He is simply not manly enough. Football people suspect him of reading novels and wearing scent'

Dashing Ginola wins his spurs

in sport. In other areas of mass entertainment, good looks and flair are generally regarded as a bonus. But, in sport, it causes a very obvious gender divide.

To take an extreme example, the advent of Andre Agassi in 1991 was greeted by astute female Wimbledon viewers as the most exciting event in tennis since the Dauphin sent balls to King Henry V. "Come on, Andre!" they yelled. The fact that Agassi wore a shirt specially short to reveal six inches of matted turnmy on follow-through seemed no reason to cast toffee-nosed aspersions on his self-evident abilities in wielding a bat. But male zled by a perceived sexual threat, would initially have none of it. They did what jealous men always do - they refused to be impressed and made iumpen-witted jokes about their adversary's name.

"Bah," they said. "Flashy crowd-pleaser... humbog... bring back Lendi...' A gassy' is right.... fat man struggling to get out ... pit pony ... don't know what you see in him . . . not a serious sportsman. ... pigeon-toed ... vacuous ... oh

my God he's in the quarter-finals." I mention all this because a strangely reminiscent scene took place in the press room before Spurs v Barnsley on Saturday — a march in Which David Ginola momentously scored two goals. On a monitor in our cheerless antechamber was playing a video of a recent Tottenham club dinner at which a player-of-the-year award was presented to Sol Campbell. And every time a woman appeared on screen saying that her favourite player was David Ginola, the gathered scribes assumed a smirky, superior expression and laughed.

Now, I can see that Ginola has his drawbacks as a team player. He skips around the field singing

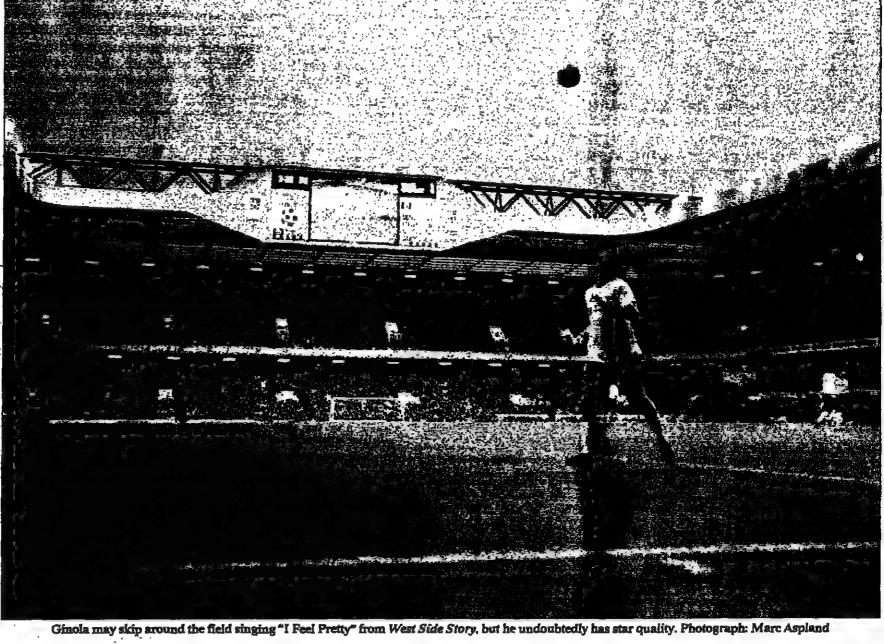




I Feel Pretty" from West Side Story, encircled by his own personal spotlight; he disdains tackling; he adjusts his hair, and he is forever backheeling balls in an airy, read-my-mind manner to make wrong-footed team-mates

It's obvious that Campbell is a lot more use to Tottenham, that he is a genuine star player. Ginola is no all-rounder, by any means. Kenny Dalglish showed him the quick route out of Newcastle and Christian Gross isn't jumping around much, either. This success was not the work of one man," the Tottenham manager said after their 3-0 victory. "Please can we talk about not just David Ginola." But, at the same time, it's not daft girliness to be impressed by him or

to enjoy his star quality. Tottenham know he's a crowd-pleaser, after all. They put him on the cover of the programme in a the well-stuffed rack of signed player portraits had a noticeable



gap where the Ginolas had sold out. "He's a star, isn't he?" I urged a colleague in the press box after Ginola had scored his two goals and the crowd was roaring his name. "He's got charisma." But it

was no use. "Mmm. He's a flair player," came the grudging, judicious re-ply. Had I held a gun to his head and said: "Say something nice about Ginola or say goodbye to Mister Brain," I truly believe that's the highest praise I could have got

Annoyingly, Ginola's excellent performance will change nobody's opinion of him: "Why couldn't you do that against Coventry or Chelsea, you long-haired wet girlie?" is what they will say. And it's quite

true that "a great performance against Barnsley" is not destined for the tombstone. Watching Barnsley thrash about ("Help, heip!") in the shallows of the FA Carling Premiership is emphatically not like watching Brazil.

n Saturday, they put up the sort of defence usually associated with puppies defending a slipper. Moreover, their goalkeeper. Lars Leese, had made the fundamental error (Lars, you fool) of coating his gloves with Vaseline. But it's not because he's unpredictable that they dismiss Ginola as a footballer. It's because he's French and namby-pamby. Leboeuf is OK with the chaps because (though he

is similarly French) he is tough and bald and doesn't do adverts for knitwear.

"Wait till the cold weather comes," I was darkly warned last year when I was first charmed by Ginola's performances for Newcastle United. No. Ginola is simply not manly enough for people who know about football; they suspect him of reading novels and wearing

He also registers pain when tackled in an unacceptably foreign, dying-bleeding-swan manner. This counts against him considerably. On Saturday, when a tackle brought his legs zed-bedding to the ground, he waved operatically for succour — arm extended, hand limp, a graceful arc of agony. He even managed to sit on the ball on his way down, a manoeuvre I have never witnessed in a felled footballer before. "Ouch!". "Ooh!" or even "Ah!" might have been appropriate responses as Ginola sank so beauti-

fully, but all he got from the press box, of course, was "Pah!" Gross confessed that he'd used some cunning Swiss psychology on Ginola, offering him a bottle of champagne if he scored with a header. This challenge had been superbly met and it was nice to think of a manager eschewing stick for carrot. But how weird to think that a Frenchman with lots of money doesn't buy his own champagne. Swiss psychology is in its infancy, I fear. "He's happy.

He's French," Gross shrugged when asked about it. (Note to Alan Sugar: tempt Gross up Premiership with promise of big cheese

with holes in.)
I suppose, to be fair, I wouldn't like to rely on David Ginola to lift my team out of the relegation zone. Unfortunately, Ginola only looks truly comfortable when he's effortlessly outclassing everybody on the pitch, including his own teammates. Perhaps it's time to do what Southampton did with Le Tissier. accept his limitations and celebrate his strengths. There are no crossed teeth and big burn to overlook in this case. Ginola is Le Tissier but with Brigitte Bardot thrown in. Surely there's some-



. By Simon Barnes

MAGIC numbers and free champagnes what more could possibly be desired by anyone with sporting blood in the veins? Once again The Times is able to offer bottled bliss, in the form of Nicolas Feuillatte champagne, to anyone who contributes a Magic Number this Christmas.

A Magic Number is one that carries immense sporting Weight. Some numbers carry Weight for all time, like Don Bradman's 99.94 or Torvill and Dean's 6. But every year

throws up new numbers.
I will judge the numbers for their champagne-worthiness and entries should be sent to

Sports Department. The Times. Pennington Street, -London El 9XN

or by fax to 0171 782 5211. The final collection is to be published shortly after Christmas, so do it soon.

Please include a daytime telephone number. Fax to: 0171-782 5211.

Skating should receive backing

From Mr Dennis L. Bird

Sir, It is not strictly true to say (Sport in Brief, December II) that 1998 will be the first time that Great Britain has not had a full ice skating team at a Winter Olympics". In 1932 we sent only four girls; there were no men or pairs. And there have been other occasions (1952, for example) when we had no skater in the men's event.

As regards the present situation, I. think it deplorable that the British Olympic Association should interfere when the International Skating Union has accepted that our top pair and dance couple are qualified to compete at Nagano. All four are good skaters who have spent years - and much of their money - training: they deserved their chance to compete in the Olympics.

Yours sincerely. DENNIS L BIRD (The Times skating correspondent, 37 The Avenue, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex BN43 5GJ

Referees' power From Mr Phil Whittick

Sir, Danny Baker is absolutely right to rail against the number of players sent off by referees who are given "unassailable power" to cuntrol

SPORTS LETTERS

From Mr Kevin Martin

Sir. As a Peterborough United supporter, depressingly far through what sometimes feels like a life sentence, can I express how completely underwhelmed I am by the notion (Home News, December 4) that the club, through its chairman, Peter Boizot, is about to become a patron of

I should think that the great majority of the 10,000 or so who sat with me, frozen to the marrow, through a derby the other evening are more likely to be sick as parrots than

receipts will end up with the RA.

Mr Boizot may have persuaded Mr Fry that this is an excellent idea, but there again, he pays his wages, not mine. As a club, we would be far more likely to stick our chests out with pride this season if we gained promotion. That would be more likely if Mr Boizot gave us the Monet.

KEVIN MARTIN. 8 Taylors Close, Meppershall, Shefford, Beds SG17 5NH.

league football matches. Every week we see players sent off for what appears to be no more than petty fouls and seemingly innocuous tackles. Of course players should be sent

fighting and dangerous play (which are rare), but a sending-off should only be a last resort. But we must not blame referees entirely. It is the Football Association who instruct these officials, and their casual approach to the sending-off of players simply demonstrates, once again, the arrogant approach of the

off in exceptional circumstances, like

game's administrators to the watch-I look forward to the day when a supporter sues the FA, on whose behalf some petulant official has removed one or more of the star entertainers advertised to appear.

Yours sincerely, PHIL WHITTICK. 19 Coed Pella Road, Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL29 7BA.

Claim to fame

From Mr Magnus K. Moodie

Sir, The Edinburgh Academy has had 91 of its former pupils selected to play international rugby, 87 for Scotland and four for England. Of these, one is female, Margaret McHardy, who played seven times for Scotland last year. Barry Stewart, who won the second of his two caps against Australia two years ago, is our latest male international.

Among our more distinguished alumni are "Hippo" Reid, one of the first superstars of world rugby, first capped in 1881, W. M. C. McEwan, who played for both Scotland and South Africa, "Phil" McPherson, who captained the 1924 Scotland grandslam team while at Oxford University, and the immortally famous

Douglas Ellion When this subject came up for discussion at the club, we felt that perhaps there would not be a school

on mainland Britain that could rival

Yours sincerely, MAGNUS K. MOODIE (Press & Media Officer), Edinburgh Academical Football Club, 47 Newhaven Main Street. Edinburgh EH6 4HW.

Rugby too aggressive

From Mr John E. V. Rose

Sir, It is noticeable that the level of aggression in rugby union is increasing (Sports in Schools, December 8). Frequently in these circumstances, the referee is blamed for "losing control" of the game. Surely it is time that the coach and the captain took some responsibility for the actions of their own side and exercised the appropriate leadership?

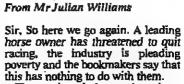
Yours faithfully, JOHN E. V. ROSE, 22 Nassau Road, Barnes, SW13 9OE.

Peterborough United and the strange art of patronage Bookmakers

over the moon that the equivalent of all the evening's CTY Wolf

e-mail to:

letters@the-times.co.uk



The racing industry has been bleating on about its problems for so long now it is becoming tedious. How many other sports benefit significantly from one of the country's only hypothecated taxes? And who pays this levy? The bookmaker? Certainly not. It is the punter.

While racing goes cap in hand once again to HM Treasury for a cut in betting duty, the owners threaten to leave, the bookmakers respond. where is the punter's voice?

It is time that racing put its house in order and the Government said enough is enough. Abolishing the levy would be a good start. Racing should streamline the fixture list. halve the number of courses and encourage attendance. It is also time that the bookmakers stopped pretending that they fund racing. And it is finally time that the owners stopped threatening and actually

Yours faithfully, JULIAN WILLIAMS. l Chestnut Hill, Eaton,

This week in THE UNIES



Tomorrow Have Arsenal been able to get their championship challenge back on track at Wimbledon?

Christmas Eve Word games: win cham-pagne in The Times jumbo sports crossword

■ Boxing Day
The day for greys at
Kempton Park — Richard Dunwoody, above, compares the punters' favourites, Desert Or-chid and One Man. Plus: recall the highs and lows of 1997 in the sports quiz of the year

Saturday Reports and scores from all the Premiership football matches. Plus: Simon Barnes on a Kempton Park hero

West Country team recapture their appetite for past glories in dismissing Pau



Evans, the Bath wing, grits his teeth in determination as he confronts the Pau half-back pairing at the Recreation Ground. Photograph: David Jones

Bath's spirit returns in Heineken Cup

BY DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SO THE old Bath spirit did not die at Watford, it just lay dormant for a week. The most serious bout of introspection in which the club has been forced to indulge since its rise to the top of the English game ended at the Recreation Ground on Saturday with a place in the final of the Heineken Cup and a lap of honour to acknowledge the passionate support of their 8,000 followers.

It was not the beautiful game that Bath succeeded in playing towards the end of last season but it embraced that dogged quality so notably absent the previous Sunday, when Saracens scored 50 points against them. To turn that around in so short a time was a tribute to players and coaching staff but it will not be enough to win the final in Bordeaux on January 31; if Bath are to come anywhere near success they must embark over the next month on a confidence-enhancing round of domestic games.

ing-room this season. "We are still only 50 per cent towards what we can do," Jonathan Callard, the full back and assistant coach, said, "I hope we can make that significant improvement." He and his colleagues have started by playing for each other and reviving the basic handling skills that deserted them against Saracens, but there

Pau are new to this level of rugby, too, and when the opportunity to pull the brand from the fire was given them, in the closing stages, they lacked the nerve to take it. The pace and talent of their back division has been wellflagged but with Bath a mere six points ahead, they chose not to trust it but to kick away possession it took them so long to secure; even when their backs were running against forwards, they failed

to keep ball in hand. The positive side of our quarter-final against Leicester and of this semifinal was that Pau rugby was seen at its best," Henri Nieto, their director of rugby, said. Considence has been a frag- There is no doubt that the

French club from the Pyrenees has been hurt by the constant accusations of foul play, which saw them hauled before the European Rugby

Cup board earlier this season.

Had they scored the try that seemed there for the taking midway through the first half, Pau might have proved an even greater hurdle. Only a forward pass from Bacque to Cleda denied them and, remained a hesitancy that, thereafter, Bath deprived them of the time and space fortunately for Bath, found an echo among their French they needed; it was the ambition of Andy Robinson, the Bath coach, to see his players in the faces of their opponents throughout the 80 minutes and, led by the aggressive



Ubogu bursts through to score Bath's only try

Richard Webster, he

before we match the great Bath teams of the past," Robinson said. Though he will not rely on it. Robinson will hope, too, that Jeremy Guscott - who returned to training last week after a slow recovery from a back condition - will be available to bring his mercurial talent to the final even if that then forces him to make a difficult choice between Callard, his goalkicker, and the effervescent Matt Perry at full back. Twice Perry looked likely to break the Pau line, once

> line. The American strode through the defence, thought about going himself but wisely fed Ubogu. Yet, after the interval Pau's game flickered into life. They sion from the lineout and the depth of their passing was a joy to watch; it centred around Dantiacq, though the key component might have full back, had he not lacked a shade of match sharpness after three weeks recovering from a knee injury. Having

into an eight-point lead, Pau vided the midfield link and Danitacq's long pass drew Adebayo fatally infield and left Bernat-Salles free to scorch into the corner. The French were none too

happy when Adebayo's boot caught Bernat-Salles in the midriff, even less so when Triep-Capdevielle received a llow card for stamping. But Bath's final flurry forced them to attack from deep; had they been at home, they would surely have had the confidence to run the ball, but instead they chose to play for territory. With so young a side, they will be back and better for the experience but Bath can enjoy the here and

Battling Brive earn reward for endurance

(aet; 16-16 after 80min Brive win on tries)

PROM DAVID HANDE IN TOULOUSE

AMID scenes of mounting Gallic passion and huge ex-citement, Brive, the bolders, made their way into the final of the Heineken Cup at the Stade de Toulouse yesterday and they will thank their stars that six weeks will pass before they play Bath in the final. Their physical and mental resources were drained to the limit in a tense climax.

Not only did they have to ment of watching Christophe Lamaison, one of the Euroean game's most reliable cickers, miss a conversion to win the match in the last seconds of proper time but, deep into extra time they saw Toulouse steal back the lead. Yet what he had failed to do earlier. Lamaison achieved in the final minute of time added on, his fourth penalty goal securing the draw and Brive a place in the final by virtue of scoring two tries to one.

There was an obstinacy to Brive that Toulouse, for all the internationals that swell their ranks, could not break down, a small-town cussedness that makes their second appearance in the final all the more worthy. They have put behind them the trauma of autumn, when they were embroiled in the battle with Pontypridd, and their true character emerged before a disbelieving crowd of 27,000.

The holders started the better, with Lamaison's first penalty and Magne seizing awell-worked try from the front of the lineout. In scoring, however, the flanker damaged his right knee,



which was the start of sundry heedless acts of violence that might have been more harshly punished

The entire first half was punctuated by stoppages but Toulouse seemed far from inconvenienced; their attitude, and that of their supporters, reflected a team that was winning, even when the scoreboard showed other-

Bondouy, looping round from a scrum, scored their try and the tide of penalties and scrums ran heavily against Brive. But no matter the pressure - and they conceded six points for scrum col-— the Brive tight forwards hung on.

It was nip and tuck during the third quarter as the lead changed hands three times but, at 16-11, Toulouse were set fair for their second final in 1996. The Carrat brothers thought otherwise. Starved of the ball throughout the match, Jérôme found himself in space and carved an elegant line to within ten metres. Carbonneau 'flung' out the longest of passes from the ruck and Sébastien, the older brother, scampered over some 15 metres wide of the

Lamaison's conversion. with two minutes of injurytime played, seemed a formality but to his borror he pulled the ball left. His nerve held sufficiently to strike his third penalty from 42 metres in the first period of extra time but Delaigue did as much for Toulouse, and then thrust his club ahead with nine minutes remaining. With players slowing from fatigue, Arbizu, the little Argentinian, made one final dart and once more Toulouse offended: Lamaison, from 27 metres,

despair.

sent his colleagues into

raptures and a city into

Robinson becomes the ventriloquist without his dummy



here is no sense of impotence, surely, quite like the observable impotence of the club coach. His every agitated action, from the devouring of an entire packet of wine gums to the parading back and forth from his place in the stand to the touchline, frowning and muttering mantras of complaints to himself, is testimony to his obsessive helplessness. Andy Robinson, the Bath coach, was a picture of furious powerlessness; of energy barely

contained, of nerves bared. Every twitch of his arm, every crack of his gnarled knuckles, every whispered expletive was manifest proof that he was living every move on the field. His own moves, played out in his fervid mind, were perfect in every way, in preparation and execution; each man in his place, each pass minutely timed. Out on the pitch, however, things never work out quite in the same way. It is this gap between the ideal, as he would wish it, and the reality, as it happens, provokes this paralysis of unrealised performance. It is an 80-minute exercise in futility; a life suspended. A coach is the ventriloquist without his dummy; he knows the script but there is no action he can take to give it life. Mere words, that is all.

Thus it was an enormous relief to see Bath win this match and go forward to the Heineken Cup final, which they have promised themselves they would do for the past two seasons. To see a team win a game which for the most part they deserved to do is, quite

After witnessing Bath's triumph, Gerald Davies reflects on the sheer frustration of being a coach

more among their forwards.

with the ageless Redman, who dominated the lineout,

the athletic Lyle and the two

Welsh flankers, Webster and

Thomas. It was significant

that their try came from a

forward, Ubogu, though

these days you are as likely to

see a hooker lining up on the

wing - as, indeed, Regan

was when Ubogu completed

It was, though, a well-

worked score. Aucagne and Callard had exchanged pen-alty goals but the full back

was adrift with two more

before he hit the line at an

angle and established the

ruck from which Catt and de

Glanville bunched Lyle at the

his dash for the line.

Bath, whatever the defenders of their faith say, are a long way from being the formidable force that they have recently been. Probably, they have reached the final in their least ostentatious year for a decade or more. It is doubtful whether Robinson would remain patient with such loose talk; not with all that pentup volatility about to explode. They have done it and that is it.

Furthermore, with Newcastle, the only other English representative club left at this stage in European competitions, but who have now themselves departed. we should all feel a certain hearty

uplift that the whole caboodle is not entirely dominated by the French clubs. This side of the English Channel we should be thankful that Bath's flag is still flying. But foremost we should be thankful that the West Country club did what they did for Robinson's sake. Observing him across the gangway in the stand was to feel the kind of penance he pays each time he watches his own club play. He is clearly a worrying sort of man. As a longstanding part of Bath's brotherhood, the locker-

room camaraderie, he cares. "Emotional" is the word he himself used afterwards, particu-

larly to describe his response to the debacle of a half-century of points conceded against Saracens last weekend and the way they scarpered pretty sharpish from London afterwards. One hopes he is going to sleep a few nights from

"Fall back... go wide... watch them, watch them ... oh, ref-er-ee." The internal struggle was palpable. There was so much that he wanted to say but so little time to say it in the correct order. It was a mind and body in torment. His thoughts were racing ahead in the way that he must have wished his body could still do. He sometimes sat in his seat. At other times he crouched on his haunches. Eunuch-like, he is there at every .

scene. He observes what is going on. He knows what should be

done and how. But he is destined forever not to take part. This must be the ultimate disappointment. He hardly enjoyed the luxury of a smile, apart from those occasions that his team scored. Whether he did so at the end I do not know. When the final whistle blew, he was gone. A whooping great cheer seemed to hang in the air above where he had once been. In the wink of an eye he was seen. shoulder hunched, to be racing

had wanted to do all afternoon. He was taking the swiftest route back to the dressing-rooms to rub shoulders with his victorious play-ers. He must have felt wonderful. I felt happy for him. For once that day he must have been at peace

across the pitch, chuckling no doubt to himself. It was what he

Students earn a distinction

THE semi-final draw in The Times

 Students' European Rugby Championship has paired Toulouse with University College, Cork (UCC), and, in an all-Welsh clash, the University of Wales, Institute of Cardiff (UWIC) with Swansea. The draw, made by Tom Kiernan, the chairman of the five nations' comminee, follows qualification games in four pools, in England, Wales, Ireland and France, which were completed on Friday. The ties are to be played on January 16.

Toulouse, UWIC, and UCC, who each hosted a pool, ensured that home advantage counted. Only Swansea, who won the Durham pnol, bucked the trend. UCC were the last to qualify with a narrow victory in a pulsating game against Oxford in Cork on Friday night in front of more than 2,000 people. The UCC's 19-15 win ended England's interest in the inaugural tournament that the organiser, Len Harty, said had exceeded all expectations so far.

"We are heading back towards a belle epoque for university rugby. The students are really responding



to it, with excellent behaviour on and off the pitch. The reports have been of very good rugby, of players expressing themselves through the game, of a tremendous conviviality, and of friendships being struck that should last a lifetime." Harty. who spent two years formulating the championship, said.

The most pleasing aspect, he continued, had been that students had played rugby with a smile, and for the enjoyment, free of the constraints and pressures of the win-at-all-costs mentality that pervade the sport at the professional

level. Winning was still important, The tournament has been incredible and it is very satisfying to see it up and running after a lot of hard work and anxiety." Harty

"Without the support of The

Times and a grant from the Found-ation for Sport and the Arts, none of it would have been possible As a past president of UCC Rugby Club, Harty was delighted that Cork had reached the last four. but groaned when Kiernan drew them away to Toulouse, who, along with UWIC were the pre-tourna-ment favourites. "It looks grim for Cork," he said. "But the students are elated at the thought of travel-ling to France, even though it is going to be a very tough task. There are two cracking semi-finals in

The UWIC versus Swansea tie is a mouth-watering prospect. On form, UWIC should repeat the victory they enjoyed earlier this season, but Mike Wall, the secretary, said nothing would be taken for granted. "We have always had close encounters with them. They will take us all the way," he said.

Newcastle's big men meet their match frenzied commitment of Agen and

FROM JOHN HOPKINS IN AGEN

IT HAS long been accepted that French back play is in a class of its own for improvisation and skill but, on Agen's sodden pitch on Saturday in this European Conference semi-final, Newcastle, the remaining British team, were rough-handled out of the competition and given a hearty reminder that French forward play is as muscular and robust as its back play is gifted and delicate.

Newcastle have some physically impressive forwards, but they more than met their match in Agen's eight. "French forwards are big men, strong men," Rob Andrew noted. Steve Bates, the Newcastle coach, said that some of the teams in the Allied Dunbar Premiership would have been swept aside by

Agen.
In these days of basketball rugby, a game without a try being scored may sound dour. On the contrary, it was stirring to see the

heroic defence by both teams on a pitch that in parts resembled a swamp. The balance was swung Agen's way by two factors, the first being Benazzi's leadership and his all-round skills as he demonstrated how hurt he was to have been dropped earlier in the week from a French squad session. "I'd like to see who they'd pick instead of him," Dean Ryan, the Newcastle No.8, said wryly after a taxing afternoon. Benazzi himself admitted he had

been shocked at the decision. "I was extremely motivated for this match," he said. "I am determined to return for France for the first five nations' game."
The other contributing factor to Agen's victory was Newcastle's apparent rustiness in the first half

when they had the help of a strong wind. It was only their second game in six weeks and it showed. They survived some hectic sieges to their line but rarely appeared capable of scoring a try. Andrew's three penalty goals from three attempts gave them a six point lead at half-time but, realistically, it always seemed a lead that was likely to be overtaken.



Benazzi: five nations' aim

Agen took only 12 minutes of the second half to draw level after first Bouic kicked the most wobbly dropped goal that you will see for some time and then Mazas added a penalty goal from long range after Newcastle had been penaltsed in a

The kick of the afternoon, though, was one of more than 50 yards by Mazas when there were only ten minutes remaining. If gave Agen the lead for the first time

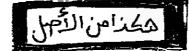
inspired to survive the last few minutes in the face of several spirited attacks by Newcastle. We need to be exposed to this level of competition more often." Bates said. Sir John Hall, the club chairman, was less convinced. "Everybody is losing a fortune in the Conference," he said. "There is not enough money and the travel-

ling is expensive. We're just totting up, but coming here today has probably cost us E10,000. We get a bit back, but there is not enough money in the Conference for English clubs. We're not being greedy—it's just a fact of life. The European Cup needs revamping and I don't think needs revamping and I don't think there is a place for the Conference."

SCORERS: Agent Pendity goeis: Mazzes 3 (4min. 52, 71) Dropped goei: Bouic (45). Newcastler. Pendity goeis: Adent (45). Newcastler. Pendity goeis: Andrew 3 (8, 20, 42). SCORING SECUENCE (Agen itself: 3-0 3-3, 3-6, 3-9 (mil-limit), 9-9, 9-9, 12-9.

AGEN: V Thorner; N. Mazze, O Campen, J.C. Cetaco (ser. S Presper, 77min). C Hayfram, G Boule, G Sudre; E Radificiale, B Fabre (per S Set, 73). P Presentini, M Medicaout, C Porcu, P Benestico, J Troucker (pair F Bourdeith, 63). A Sensozi.

Serrezzi.
NEMCASTLE: S Legg. J Serdiny. A Taj. v Tugernate. T Underwood; R Andrew, G Armstrong: G Gratines; R Needele, P Vertambliet. G Andre. G Weit ryor, R Medicalle, SZ), R Annold (rep. -P Weitzer, Gg. P Lem, D Ryen



Kingston rails against referee as unbeaten home record disappears

Richmond's fortress breached by Grayson

Richmond
Northampton ...

BY MARK SOUSTER

RICHMOND'S proud unbeaten home record, which stretched back two years, ended in controversial circumstances yesterday after a defeat that could have serious repercussions for their hopes of qualifying for Europe this season. John Kingston, the Richmond director of rugby, was incensed by the performance of Stuart Piercy, the referee. "He was appalling," Kingston said. "He was desperately inconsistent with offside and what he allowed to happen around the rucks and mauls."

Kingston was particularly unhappy that Piercy played 40 minutes and nine seconds in the second half, believing more injury time should have been allowed. The decision to award a free kick against Richmond for not engaging when they had opted for a scrum on the Northampton line in a frantic final two minutes also.

Results and tables.

dismayed Kingston. After a dramatic comeback in the final 15 minutes, the scrum was Richmond's last chance to snatch a victory that had seemed out of reach after an hour, when Northampton had established an eightpoint lead.

He also criticised the number of penalties — 17-9 — awarded against his side, indiscipline that Paul Grayson, the England fly half, punished severely with seven successful penalty goals to add to the nine he kicked against London Irish last week.

To be fair, Kingston accepted that Richmond had been below par and had perhaps underestimated a Northampton side that has been revitalised by the arrival of Gary Pagel. Whoever Kingston cares to point the finger of blame at, the fact remains that this was a missed opportunity to consolidate a position in the top three.

Ian McGeechan, the Northampton director of rugby, understandably saw the referee's interpretations differently. "He had the confidence to penalise Richmond for being offside and for hanging on to the ball," he said. "It was our

discipline that won the game."

This was a bruising encounter between two juggernaut packs that were content to slug it out. No quarter was asked or given. After

their victory over the exiles, Northampton showed a different side to their game yesterday, preparing to meet fire with fire against a Richmond pack that had steam-rollered Leicester on Tuesday. They matched Richmond up front, stole two important lineouts in the third quarter and produced one driving man! that took them 40

metres upfield.

Northampton had taken the lead with Grayson's first successul kick in the second minute. Thereafter the tackling was intense as both sides probed for openings and a refreshed Tim Rodber was in the thick of the action.

Richmond always seemed to carry the greater threat out wide. Earl Va's was a smooth operator at fly half and Chapman and Wright, the wings, had real pace. However, it was the tried and trusted Quinnell brothers who combined for Richmond's first try. Craig took the catch at the lineout and Scott drove over from close range. After Grayson had kicked his second and third goals in the fourteenth and 24th minutes, Va'a's electric break in midfield created Richmond's sepond score, allowing Chapman to race in at the corner.

Grayson's fourth penalty goal restored. Northmampton's advantage, only for Pini to kick his first to give Richmond a narrow 13-12 lead at half-time. Northampton raised their tempo in the third quarter and, with Grayson dropping a goal after 51 minutes and then adding two more kicks in the space of five minutes, they appeared to be

Instead of taking the game on, they sat back and allowed Richmond to run at them. After Pini kicked his second penalty goal, only a fine ankie-tap tackle by Gregor Townsend prevented a try. The metronomic boot of Grayson continued to punish Richmond's indiscipline as he landed his seventh kick out of eight attempts on 58 minutes.

Richmond refused to buckle, though, and Jason Wright rounded off a sweeping move on the right. Sadly for them, Pini pushed the conversion wide.

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: S Quinnell (13min), Chepman (27), Wright (73). Pensity gosts: Pmi 2 (33, 84), Northerpsion: Pensity gosts: Crayson 7 (2, 14, 24, 31, 55, 61, 69). Dropped goal: Greyon (51). SCORING SEQUENCE (Richmond first): 0-3, 5-3, 5-6, 3-9, 10-9, 10-12, 13-12 (half-tans), 13-15, 13-18, 13-21, 15-21, 15-24, 21-24.

Chirnell,
NORTHAMPTON: J Bell, J Sleighthoirre,
Townsend, A Northey, B Cohen; P Grayson,
Devotry, G Pagel, A Clarke, M Stewart, J Philips,
Chandler, D MacKimon, A Pountney, T Robber



Chapman, right, of Richmond, struggles to get to grips with a marauding run by Sleightholme, the Northampton wing

Leicester look to build on victory

Leicester..... Hariequins...

iledaitie...

By Mark Souster

THOSE who preferred to spend the last Saturday before Christmas catching up on some last-minute shopping, rather than watch this dire spectacle, made the correct decision. Andrew Leeds, the former Australia full back making his rugby union comeback after a decade, must have wondered what had possessed him to ring Bob Dwyer, the Leicester coach, to look for a game during a holiday here with his wife.

The consolation for Leicester was two welcome points in the first division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, after a victory that lifts them above Harlequins in the table. The London side found itself stack in the gluepot pitch and unable to do anything about it. The conditions were so heavy that Andy Keast, the Harlequins director of rugby, wondered aloud if Leicester had been up to mischief by watering the

"It was such a slow game," Keast said, blaming John Pearson, the referee, in part for his staccato use of the whistle, but also his players for not being able to rouse themselves after their heroics against Wasps. "When three or four key players have shockers it doesn't help the team," he said. Charitably.

he refused to name names.

Leicester's next two games are against Saracens and Newcastle, the pace-setters in the division, and the Tigers will be anxious to demonstrate that the old order has not been overturned just yet. "It'll close things up if we win those," Dwyer said, "What happens in the next two weeks will be significant. Winning is important because we have got to stay in the race and if



Greenwood: scored second try

we can win both we will be well placed around the turn."

On a miserable afternoon, Leicester reverted to type and the

rolling maul. Opportunities to shine were limited. Leeds noticed that players these days were far more careful about what options they took and preferred to keep it tight rather than risk turning over possession. "You don't kick like you did before." he said. "Possession is at a premium. If you cough it up you might not get it back."

it up you might not get it back."
Having been driven into the ground by the Quinnell brothers at Richmond on Tuesday night, Leicester's ambition seemed to be restricted solely to avoiding defeat against a side that has had the indian sign over them in recent years. In a forgettable first half, Horak and Lacroix exchanged penalty goals. Serevi almost scored a try when he fastened onto a break by Garforth, only to lose control of the ball in the chase. The only try was scored after 39 minutes; not surprisingly, it was a penalty try awarded after Harlequins had dropped the scrum for the umpteenth time on their own

It got marginally better after the interval, when Leicester cranked up their effort a couple of notches. With Fritz van Heerden in outstanding form, they stole Harlequins' throw at least four times and the bulk of the good things they managed emanated from quick clean possession at the lineout. Van Heerden has lifted the burden from Johnson's shoulders and the duo, are, as Dwyer said, as good a pair of locks as to be found anywhere.

With Corry back from injury. Leicester had numerous options and both their tries in the second half stemmed from the lineout. Corry's take after 61 minutes sparked the best move of the match. Play swept left and Serevi's floated pass, although suspiciously forward, almost enabled Horak to nip In. From the ruck Serevi set Greenwood free in acres of space. The third try was more prosaic, a trademark take-and-drive that saw Nell Back credited with the score. SCORERS: Lelcaster: Tries: penalty by (39min). Greenwood [61], Beck [76] Commentons: Serom, 187] Harriequins: Penalty goal: Lacox (17) SCORING SEOUENCE (Lecos) 181] 3-0, 3-3, 10-3 [nathame], 13-3, 20-3, 27-3

LEICESTER: A Leads, C Joner, W Greenwood (sep. J Overand, 74min). S Poner, M Horais, W Sersen, A Healey, G Rowntree, R Cockoriff, D Garforth, M Johnson, F van Heerden, L Moody (sep. P Gusterd, 58), N Book, M Corry (sep. D West 80).

Ed., HARLEQUINS: J.Williams, D.O.Learv (rep. R. Liey 30), J. Nayter, J. Ngauerno, L. Belligor, T. Lacrou, N. Weishe (rep. H. Harnes, 45), J. Leonard, T. Billips, A. Mullins, Gareth Llevollyn (rep. L. Cabannes, 58), R. Strudwick, R. Jenkors, W. Davison, A. Leach Referenc, J. Pearson, (Durham).

Melrose make it a point of honour

Jed-Forest...... Meirose

Bi Kevin Ferrie

WHATEVER the shape of the Tennents Premiership programme. Melrose always seem to cope. Two seasons ago, the league campaign packed into the first half of the season, they squeezed home. Last season, with an eight-ream division, they maintained a 100 per cent record to claim their sixth parional tyle in eight years.

national rate in eight years.

The efficiency with which they overcame their neighbours in this potentially awkward derby, Jed-Forest having opened with two wins from their previous three matches, was little more than standard procedure, then.

Scores early in each half, the first created by Bryan Redpath's chip and chase into the 22 before putting his older brother, Craig, clear set the tone, and they eased away with 15 unanswered points in the third quarter. At times they looked capable of playing with the fluency that brought a grand slam — Premiership, Scottish Cup, Border League and Melrose Sevens — last season.

However, the innovative bonus point system introduced this season appears to be having a counterproductive effect, at least for teams cruising to victory. A year ago, Melrose and Watsonians, the eventual runners-up, piled up scores in the closing stages of matches, providing great entertainment. The bonus system, however, has reduced the likelihood of two sides finishing level on points.

Having assumed the captainty after the late withdrawal of Carl Hogg, who had lurched off groggily but claimed, as he left Riverside Park, that he was suffering from no more than a shoulder injury, Redpath Jr observed afterwards: "We were determined not to think about the bonus point and to work for the 80 minutes."

Yet, doubtless subconsciously, teams seem to ease off after scoring the fourth try that should ensure a maximum count. Melrose did, though, secure the full count before relinquishing their grip, unlike West of Scotland who scored only three tries in their 23-5 win over Boroughmuir.

Brian Edwards, the West of Scotland coach, identified a lack of composure for their failure to capitalise on their superiority. That dropped point at Meggetland may prove as crucial as the defeat the previous week by Stirling County, whose 29-7 loss to

Watsonians left Melrose clear.

SCORERS: Jed-Forest: Trest: Renwich (69mm), McGroy (80) Conversion: Richards Penalty goal: Richards (37) Melroset: Triest: C. Redpain (2), Brodierstone (47), Dalglezh (51), Broughton (5) Conversion: Shepherd Penalty goals: Shopherd 2 (10, 41)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Jed-Forest first) 0-5, 0-8, 3-8 (hall-time), 3-11, 3-18, 3-23, 3-28 (10-28) 15-29

15-28
JED-FOREST: C. Richards: I. Smith, B. Middlejon, M. Schanenberg, M. Brown, G. Scott, Itap, D. Hemming, B. Finnin, M. Dungari, Irop, G. Rethinds, S.), H. McLico, C. Brown, D. A. Cemptell, J. Schudel, M. Rocertson, T. Brown, D. Forsler, S. Heaton, M. Rocertson, T. Brown, D. Forsler, S. Heaton, M. Monchett; G. Shell, B. Recham, M. Browne, Irop, D. Grantam, 66, S. Brotherstown, I. Commail, P. Brown, S. Artken, C. Fiedpoth, I.I. Broughton, C. Hogg (rep. A. Clark, 77).
Reference: I. Ramape (Berwick)

Cooke demands more discipline from Bedford

Bedfor

- dumim

COACHES are rarely satisfied with their team's performance. There is always something to analyse, something to analyse, something with which to confront his players from the videotape of the same

Geoff Cooke is no exception, despite the fact that he has handed the coaching mantle to others and has to content himself with making comments from his platform as chief executive of Bedford.

With Frank Warren, his chairman and dub benefactor, away in New York celebrating a boxing triumph, and Paul Turner, his director of rugby, under the shower after taking part in this muddy game. Cooke was happy to discuss Bedford's shortcomings as well as highlight their achievements. He was delighted with the score as Bedford chalked up their eleventh Allied Dunbar Premiership second division win in succession to cement their place at the top of the table, but insisted they should have won by a larger margin, a succession of errors being allowed to get in the

But his main gripe was that his players gave away far too emany penalties, letting do Moseley stay in contention for too long, "We must have discipline. I shudder to think what we will see when we look at the video. The penalty count will be horrendous," he said. Earlier in the week he had criticised his players for lack of concentration, but on Saturday he was happier with that

aspect. He also purred at some of their ball-in-hand moves.
"You have to be happy when your team has won by five tries to one," he said. "We meet Northampson [of the first division] in the cup in the new year and we can lift our game a

couple of notches for that."
Cooke's worst moment of the afternoon was when an autograph-seeker called him Jack, mistaking him for Jack Rowell, like Cooke a former England manager.
"Please don't call me that.

anybody but Jack Rowell. I'm not half as ugly as he is." He praised Moseley for making a good game of the encounter on Saturday but knew that the 5-i try count reflected his team's superiority.

Moseley were handicapped from early in the second half when Rush, their scrum half, was carried off with a bruised neck and taken to hospital for an X-ray. Thankfully, his inju-

ry was not considered to b serious. Paul Turner was at his bes

Paul Turner was at his best for Bedford, full of sleight of hand and trickery. Moseley were well aware of the danger he posed and he was frequently swamped by three opponents at once.

Bedford got away to a

sparkling start, Murdoch breaking through on the Moseley 22 line then capitalising on a tapped penalty to score the opening try. Rayer converted, scored two tries and converted one of them. Moseley replied with a dropped goal from Jones and a try from McAtamney, which Jones converted. Jones kicked

two penalties in the second half, while Murdoch and Foster scored unconverted tries for Bedford and Rayer kicked a penalty goal. SCORERS, Bedford, Trees, Murdoch 2

a penalty goal.

SCORERS. Bedford: Trest: Murdoch 2
(Brint, 60), Rayer 2 (10, 35), Foster (75)
Conversione: Rayer 2 (10, 35), Foster (75)
Conversione: Rayer 2 Penalty goals: Agree (80)
Moseley: Try McAlamney (31)
Conversion. Jones Penalty goals: Jones 2 (43, 69) Dropped goal: Jones (17),
SCORING SEQUENCE (Bedford first) 7-0,
14-0, 14-3, 14-10, 19-10 (halt-time), 19-13,
24-13, 24-15, 29-16, 32-16
BEDFORD: M Rayer: H Pflugler, E Muttoch
B Whetstone, R Underwood, P Tumer, S Crabb (rep. A Kardoon, 8 ffrum); C Boyd, R Kirke, D Hinkins (rep. 1 Hatley, 70), R thompson (rep. M Deens, 72), S Murray, R Winters, J Foster, J Paramore
MOSELEY: A Binns (rep. J Liev, 77), S Hackney, L Criscuolo, D Hartie, R Maran, M Jones, R Rush (rep. 2 Liev, 77), S Hackney, L Chiscuolo, D Hartie, R Maran, M Jones, R Rush (rep. C Mutraine, 54), H Hurley (rep. J Cale, 71), I Santh, A Channon, R Demirard, M McAlamnray, W Drake-Lee (rep. J Cookle, 71), I Smn. A Channon.
Referes: R Goodliffe (Yorishwe)

Colomiers assume Ireland fail to warm to heat of the battle

late control
COLOMIERS will play

Agen in the European Conference final after recovering from a poor start against Stade Français, of Paris, in their home semifinal Tries by Sieurac and De Giusti and two penalties by Labit gave Colomiers a 16-10 half-time lead after a Lombard try, converted by Reigt, had put Stade Français ahead after just two minutes.

Reigt kept Stade Francais in touch with a penalty, but Colomiers held on after half-time to win 19-13 with both goalkickers landing further penalties. Garndiffaith, the Welsh League fourth division team, surprised Bridgend, of the premier division, with a 24-21 win in the fourth round of the Swalec Cup. Steve Cross scored

the winning try in injury

IRELAND were left looking threadbare after they sustained their third successive defeat by Italy before a sparse, though voluble, crowd of about 7,000 at the Stadio Dall'Ara here on Saturday.

The three-man selection committee could take no consolation. Pat Whelan and Donal Lenihan, the former Ireland players, and Brian Ashton, the one-time England aspirant, are undoubtedly well-intentioned, but they have so far failed to arrest the decade-long downward spiral

decade-long downward spiral of Irish international rugby.

Ashton, for one, will hardly need reminding that the equivalent match, at Lansdowne Road last January, resulted in the dismissal of his predecessor, Murray Kidd.

Nevertheless. Whelan, the

team manager, appeared to

rule out any wholesale changes for the five nations' championship. "Our first championship match is not until early February and we have plenty of time to consider our options," he said.

Ireland, with just three of

the side defeated by Italy in Dublin at the start of the year, were outplayed and out-thought. Four penalty goals by David Humphreys, the By half, and one from Eric Elwood, who replaced him in the final quarter, were no answer to the exuberant Italians, who ran in three first-rate tries.

The Italians were a fine and committed side, who ended up as deserved winners and thereby strengthened their case for inclusion in the five nations'. Exuberance is not a word one readily applies to Ireland sides but their supporters like to think that passion, determination and sheer lack of respect for the opposition have compensated for its absence. Not on Saturday, however.

For the record, it was 9-9 at the interval, as the excellent Diego Dominguez, the Argentina-born Italy fly half, who amassed a personal haul of 27 points, and Humphreys each kicked three penalty goals in a fragmented 40 minutes dominated by Didier Mené's

They traded a further penalty apiece before Dominguez put Italy ahead again with a



Ashton: reminder

ecord, it was 9-9 at d., as the excellent minguez, the Argentaly fly half, who personal haul of 27 i Humphreys each e penalty goals in a fifth penalty on the hour. After Humphreys was helped off to have five stitches in a facial wound, Italy stepped up the tempo.

More penalty goals followed, but the Italians then

the capitalised on appalling frish capitalised on appalling to run in three superb tries.

Dominguez sauntered over

untouched after Corrado Pilat, the full back, on his debut, broke through the Ireland defence after 67 minutes. Pilat himself sprinted through for the second after 72 minutes, with Dominguez landing the touchline conversion. before Alessandro Troncon, the scrum half, sent Cristian Stoica, the centre, over on the blind side in the 75th minute for the third try.

Elwood kicked a penalty goal in the 71st minute and cleverly set up a try in the final minute for Darragh O'Mahony, which he converted, but otherwise Ireland had no answers. Whelan, however, said: "The fact of the matter is that the game could have

gone either way. We failed to put away our chance and we ended up paying the penalty." Ashton said: "We have to accept that the Italians are going to be a major force in international rugby."

SCORIERS: Italy: Tries: Dorminguez (55mn), Pilat (70), Stoce (75) Conversions: Dorminguez 2 Penelty goals: Dorminguez 6 (11 26, 37 50 68 77) reland: Try O'Mahony (76) Conversion: Excod Penalty goals: Humphreys 4 15, 15, 32, 52). Elwood (67) SCORING SEOUENCE (tally first) 0-3 3-3, 3-6, 6-6, 6-9, 9-9 (half-tene), 12-9 12-12, 15-12, 20-12, 20-15, 27-15, 34-15, 34-22, 37-22

34-22, 37-22

ITALY: C Pilat (Benetton); P Vaccari (Hy Pol) C Stoica (Narbonne) M Daltan (Benetton) Marcello Cuttitta (Milan): D Dominguez (Stade Franças), A Troncon (Benetton) Masssimo Cuttitta (Halequins), C Orienti (Milan): Acastellari (I. "Aquila), G Croci (Milan: rep: A Scanacca. Fem Rowgo, "Rimin): C Checchinisto (Benetton), M Glovanelli (Narbonne, captan, rep: O Aramico, 17-24), A Sporton (Benetton), J Gardiner (Benetton, rep Aramico, 27-20)

REFLAND: Newstan IS Marc's College D.

Aranco, 27-30)

RELAND: K Nowtan (St Mary's Colloge), D Hickle (St Mary's College), K Magga (Bristot), M McColl (London Irch), D O'Mahoroy (Moseley): D Humphreys (London Irich), rep E Bierood, Galvegsans, 60), N Hogen (London Irich): R Corrigan (Geystones), K Wood (Harlequine, capsan; rep: A Clarke, Northampson, 70), P Colnessy (Young Munsley), P Johns (Saracens), M O'Kelly (London Irish), O Erskine (Seign rep V Costello, St Mary's College, 72), D O'Grady (Sale) E Miller (Leussler)



Public schools championships reinforce cricketing connection

Rackets too cloistered for its own good

Simon Wilde watches

a Tonbridge player treading the same path as Colin Cowdrey



with rackets, one of the fastest and, at its best, most entertaining ball games in the world. It is played in Britain and North America, but there are very few courts or active participants. Of those, most congregate in London and play on the two courts at Queen's Club.

Yet it is, for example, a far more rounded game than squash, which it spawned and is now dominated by super-fit players equipped with the latest graphite technology. Rackets, in contrast, still uses wooden implements and, although these impart ball speeds of around 190mph, there remains scope, on its larger courts, for subtlety and

It is a game that makes terrific demands on footwork and eye, and many capable squash and tennis players are unable to master it. It is a wonderful preparation for other sports, which is probably why it is so popular among the established public schools and with the cricketing frateralty, who find in it an excellent means of keeping sharp in the winter months.

Lord - formerly Colin Cowdrey of Tonbridge partly attributes his early success as a batsman to his achievement in winning the under-16 title at the public schools rackets championships at Queen's. The next summer he almost doubled his run output for the first XI and within a year was invited to play for Kent: the start of a long and distinguished

Tonbridge were represented by another talented young cricketer at the championships this year, which concluded with three unusually good finals last Friday. The main

Eve tel

AOML CONTECTION

COMPETITION

Readers of The Times are offered the chance to win a place

in the Diana Team for the 1998 Flora London Marathon.

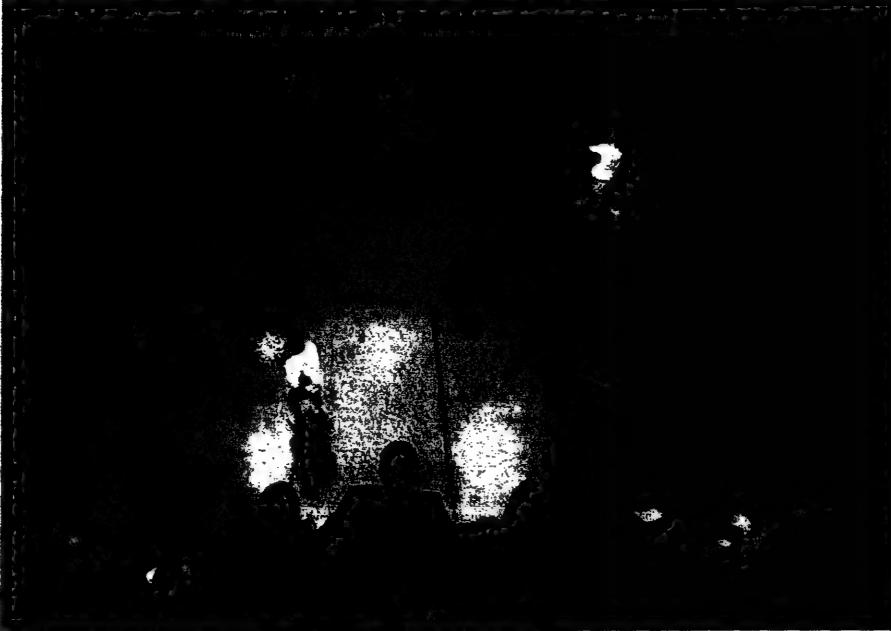
We have 20 places reserved for readers who must be over

their decision on what you reveal in this form. All the win-

ners who will take part in the marathon on April 26 will

be asked to sign a pledge form relating to their commit-

18. Read the form below carefully: the judges will base



Titchener-Barrett, of Harrow, the holder, right, serves to Cherry, of Tonbridge, in the closely contested final of the Foster Cup. Photograph: Tom Hevezi Cowdrey principle might expect to

score a lot more next year. If he

event, the Foster Cup (named after H. K. Foster, whose family put Worcestershire on the cricketing map), culminated in an eagerly awaited match between Daniel Cherry, of Tonbridge, and Alex Titchener-Barrett, of Harrow, the

This pair contested the under-16 title two years ago but had not met since, partly because Cherry was on a cricket tour when Titchener-Barrett won the title last year. They presented a stark contrast in styles: powerfully built Cherry con-

Your chance to join The Times Diana Team

stantly seeking the spectacular winning shor, the wiry Titchener-Barrett, less strong but arguably more gifted, opting for subtler lines

If this had been squash. Cherry would have won. He very nearly did, but in a thrilling fightback the left-handed Titchener-Barrett achieved the rare feat of retaining the Foster title, winning in five sets, 15-8, 8-15, 4-15, 15-6, 15-4 in a match that fully lived up to expectations. Cherry scored a lot of runs for

Tonbridge last summer and on the

ment to raise funds for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and to remit such funds by May 31, 1998.

Send this entry form to reach the following address by

January 9, 1998: The Times Diana Team, Flora London

Marathon, PO Box 5071. Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FY.

Judging will take place on January 14 and the winners will be informed by telephone by January 19.

THE TIMES

pursues a career as a professional cricketer - and there is not much scope for making money out of rackets — he is unlikely to do so with Kent, as his family is from Wales and he is already being courted by universities there and Glamorgan's cricket scouts.

Good rackets players among the existing crop of professional cricket-ers include Richard Montgomerie, of Northamptonshire, and Matthey Windows, of Gloucestershire.

who is seen as a possible future best 16 players, who are siphoned world champion. Both, predictably, are batsmen.

Along with Eton and Cheltenham, Tonbridge and Harrow dominated the championships at Queen's, but 13 schools were involved in a big entry. The under-16-final, for the Incledon-Webber Cup, produced a close and protracted duel between Tom Dunbar, of Harrow, and Graham Tyndall, of Cheltenham, which Dumbar won 12-15, 15-8, 15-10, 17-15,

The Renny Cup - for all but the

ICE SKATING

Lipinski sets the Olympic standard

FROM ANGELA COURT IN MUNICH

TARA LIPINSKI, Ilia Kulik, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, and Pasha Grishuk and Evgeny Platov. the winners of the ISU Champions Series Finals at the Olympic Hall here, did much more than take the gold medals and prize-money. They proved that they are the leading contenders for the Olympic titles in Nagano in

The events culminated on Saturday afternoon with the free programmes and when the world champion, Lipinski, from the United States, took to the ice for hers, she knew the task ahead would not be simple. Although leading after the short programme, on Sat-urday she had to follow Tanja Szewczenko, of Germany, who landed seven triple jumps in front of an ecstatic crowd.

Lipinski, who, at 15, is so tiny she could easily fit into an under-10s group, matched Szewczenko's tally of triples, including the difficult triple loop triple loop combinations. While her natural ability cannot be denied, her size is definitely an advantage where immps are concerned.

It is far easier to rotate three times in the air if you are under 5ft tall and weigh less than 6st than if you are a fully grown woman. However, it is not the job of the judges to take this into account before awarding technical marks. The skaters either complete the jumps and spins or they do not. On Saturday, Lipinski not only completed them, but did so far better than her rivals. Presentation, of course, is another matter and the four 5.9s she received for this seemed overgenerous after

witnessing the mature artistry of Maria Butyrskaya, 25, of Russia, who finished third.

Kulik outskated Elvis Stojko and Todd Eidredge in the free programme to win the men's event. The 20-year-old Russian executed two textbook triple axels, one in combination with a trible toe loop. Bu was forced to touch down on a world champion, fell on his attempt at a quad and could only finish second, with Eldredge third.

The pairs skaters, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, of Russia, gave the performance of their lives in the free programme to move ahead of Mandy Wotzel and Ingo Steuer, of Germany, who led after the short.

Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze skated close to perfection and included a huge triple twist, two solid triple throws, plus solo triple toe loops and

double axels. It is remarkable that Berezhnaya is skating at all. Two years ago she almost died after an accident in training. when her former partner's blade pierced her skull. If she and Sikharulidze win the Olympics, the movie-makers

will be queueing up.
As expected the reigning world and Olympic champions, Grishuk and Platov, won the ice dance competition. The free dance to Memorial Requient received tour perfect 6.0s from the judges.

ICE HOCKEY

Gomes guides Bracknell away from the wilderness

IN THE only Superleague fixture played on Saturday, Bracknell Bees beat Newcastle Cobras 4-1 to gain their first away success of the

in 16 league games. After a scoreless first period. Tom Comes scored twice in less than seven minutes and Jeff Johnstone added a third for Bracknell later in the period to give them a 3-0 lead at the second interval. Chris Norton pulled one back for the Cobras early in the final session, but that was all they

An odd final minute saw Newcastle remove their goaltender to ice an extra forward in an attempt to close the gap. Two Bracknell players broke

Gch-off 7.30 unless stated

Mimbledon v Arsenat (8.0)

TODAY

FOOTBALL

WINDOWN VISITURE (A.0) - STATE (A.0) - STATE

COLE SETT Hand, SECOND May Duridge (7.45). DURING PROPERTY INSURANCE MEDIAND DOORS DOOR INSURANCE MEDIAND COMBINATION PROPERTY SOUTHWART OF THE PROPERTY SOUTHWART OF

BY NORMAN DE MESQUIYA

him with two seconds The win took Bracknell into fifth place, above Cardiff Devils and just a point behind Sheffield Steelers. Their coach, Jim Fuyarchuk, has them playing disciplined hockey and the two recent additions to the squad. Colin Ward and Derek DeCosty, have brought some additional

speed and guile to the attack. The Cobras continue to struggle in spite of a change of coach and the introduction of new players. They are playing without confidence and this often leads to a past too many instead of a shot on goal.

off into the Foster Cup - was won by Richard Cowley, of Marlbor-

ough, who beat Jeremy Baker, of

rackets is not more popular, it

perhaps comes down the difficulty

of hitting a fast-moving ball and

expense, rackets being broken with alarming frequency: But if En-

gland's cricketers want to sharpen

their reflexes before facing. West

Indies, they could do worse than set

up training camp at Queen's.

If one is looking for reasons why

Malvern, 10-15, 15-10, 15-4, 15-6.

tant ingredient of Sheffield Steelers' successes the season before last, is struggling and, as usually happens when a goaltender is out of form. spends too much time on his knees. It was his inability to stay on his feet that led to two of the Bracknell goals.

The only other game on Saturday saw Steelers beat Manchester Storm 5-3 in the Express Cup. Scott Allison scored three goals for the Steelers.

free without an opponent ahead of them but the nonpuck carrier drifted offside and the goal was disallowed. beas to their thirteenth defeat Wayne Cowley then re-Cowley, who was an impor sumed his position in the Newcastle goal and Wayne Crawford put the puck past

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

Have you ever competed in a marathus before? How much money did you raise? For which organisation/s? Have you raised funds for any organisation/s before? Male Describe how much you raised and how you did it Which category do you wish to enter? Men Women Do you suffer from any illness/est Do you have any outstanding achievements of which Have you been in hospital for an operation? you are proud? Tell us about them If yes, state what and when Have you, a relative or friend, ever met Princess Diana? If yes, describe the occasion What are your hobbies? Have you, a relative or friend, any connection with any State, in not more than 50 words, why you deserve a of the Diana, Princess of Wales, charities, or a special place in this year's marathon reason for wanting to be in the Diana team? Describe

CHANGING TIMES

Asrichanter City; "Huddarstield v Middies-
rough: Ipswich v Birninghem, Nottinghem creek v Swindom, Postemováh v Ovases Park Rengers, Reading v West Bronnech
- Creat y Gwardon: Portentoran y Coleans
Dark Character Deading - Mines Character
TO A CHENNES, CREATED & FREE CREATERING
12.0); Stockport v Port Vale; Stoke v
TELOP, DECISIONS Y PUSE THE , STUDY Y
Shaffield Utd; Standerland y Bradford;
raymare v Bury, Wolvechampton v Ordensi
Addition a Coult and design and d
Jitt. Second divisions Boumsmouth v
The state of the state of the state of
AMERICAN (12 NI: EXEMPORO A SOUTHERD)
Minghem (12 0); Brantford v Southend 12 0); Bristol City v Makwall (12 0), Burnley v
IC OF DRIBBO CITY A WIREWARD (FC OF DIREMAN
Tresterheid: Cartale v Blackmoot: Lutori v
SINDRENGIA, CHERNE A DOINTHOUR CHIME! A
Britisanicker Discovery v Eddinger Denistra
ilomenolog Plymouth v Fulharr, Presion
Oldhem: Watsaff v Bristol Rovers;
Control of the control of the control of
Mediam v Wigan (12.0); Wycombe v Mediod (1.30); York v Grimsoy Third Svision: Barner v Pasarborough (12.0);
III7 7 re man Ward Cod 2 Min s
PRINCIPL VENEZUE PRINCIPLE
Andrew Comments of the second
ANDRE DELET A LIBERARY (1571):
Righton v Colonistor (1 0); Clembridge Ut.
Leyton Orient (12.0); Cardit v Exeter; Derlington v MacclesSeld; Doncaster v
CEYTON CONTROL (PECCH), COMMUNIC V EXCESS,
Michigan v Marciadakir Dencadar v i
Germanic Hardespeed of Schoolster, Half of
Ziester, Uncoln v Rotherhartt, Rochdale v
The state of the s
PRESONY, SCHROODE Y MOUS COURSE.
Carried in Company (10 15)
Presidency: Sounthorps v Notes County: Corquey v Basanses (12.15)
Standard on the Control of the Land
ALDOVALL CONFERENCE Challenham v
- 1 16 St. St
lecal (1.0; Dover v Welling (12.0);
the state of the s

OTHER SPORT ECLUESTRIANISME Charges of RACING: Kaleo (first race, 12:50), funding (1.10), Lingdist: Park (AM, 1.0) TOMORROW

ICE HOCKEY: Superdemone: Newcoole Colores v Noblingham Paraties (7 t); Bractonel Bees v Manchester Storm (8.0; Express Cap, Paraties Bean v Caroli Danie (7.50).

FOOTBALL Oct at 3.0 enland stated . NATIONANDE LEAGUE First des

FRIDAY

RUGBY LINEON ALLIED DUNEAR PREMERSHIP: First Gwisiou: Shracaru v Leicester (3.0) OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Burkweiser Lan Cester Ficiers v Lacpards (3.0).

BACING: Kempton Park (1240), Aur (1256), Hereford (106), Humingdon (110), Market Rasen (1230), Newton Abbot (125), Sedgelield (13), Wetherby (1245), Wincerton (1250), Michelmerpion 996.

SATURDAY FOOTBALL

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEASUE division: Aberdeen v Motherwelt line v Hearts, Hibernan v Kil

v Greenock Morkon; Durides v Pelletic Hernitor v Pariot; String v Reth. Second division: Cyclebert, v Clyde. Foder v Brecher; Inventes CT v East Pile; Serinousemur v Livingston; Stranger v Cueen of South. Third division: Bernick v Duribettor; Cowdenbesth v Rose County, East Sticing v Alles, Mortrose v Artrosof; Cueen's Pariot v Albion.

PLIGBY UNION Delet 20 upon march

ALIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First children: Bright v Neucastie; Gloucester v Richrand (3.0); Harlequine v London Institution (3.0); Northempton v Wasps (3.0); Sale v Bath (3.0). Second division: Pytic v Bediord; Mossiey v Rotherham (3.0). Badiord: Mossiley v Potrierham (3.0).
JENSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Hamogale v Whadadde (2.15):
Leads v Worcester (3.0); London Walsh v
Rossilyn Park (3.0); Moriley v Odey (3.0);
Nothingham v Newhury (3.0); Reading v
Lydrey (2.15); Rugby v Liverpool St Heiers:
(3.0). Second division north: Hindey v
Sadgley Park (2.30); Lichfald v Preston
Grasshoppoes (2.30); Namelson v
Ranchester (2.30); Second v Kandel (2.15);
Shelfald v Bernneystam/Solitus (2.30); Wissall v Aepaties (2.30); Winnington Park v
Stoubridge (2.30), Second division south
Alertopolism v North Westham (2.30); Esher
v Bridgweiter (2.30), Mening v Cithon:
Metropolism Police v Heasen (3.0); Perrouth v Carabedey (2.30); Talsard v Barting
(2.15); Weston-stipe-Mare v Rainfund (2.15);
Weston-stipe-Mare v Rainfund (2.15); VELSH LEAGUE Premier dvielom.
Bitdgerd v Ebow Vale: Lienell v Cardit,
Neeth v Newbort: Swermen v Portypnote
(6.0). Flast division: Abectson v Treonchy,
Borymeen v Portypool; Camphilly v Backwood; Cross Keys v Liandowsy; Maester v
Abertillery, Merity v Newbridge; Sauth
Wales Potion v Runney; Cardill Indicate v
Newscrip.

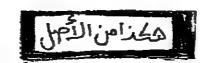
NYENTS PREMERSHIP: First divisions riturgh Academicals v Strilog County, 1-Fotest v Carlet, Malease v Heado's isoneans v Boraughttur, West of Scot-id v Henot's PP. Second divisions Bigger late: Dundes VSFP v-Peeblest, Kalso v sgow Header, Kiltzambod v Kiltzadiy, ston Lodge v Museelburgh. Third sions, Abardegs, GSFP v Gestorines v urb, Grangemoust v Hillhead Clorderfull,

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budwelser League; Birmingham Bullets v. Newcaste Facility CING: Kempton Park (12.40). Chepston 20), Leicester (1.05), Wetherby (1.0)

> SUNDAY FOOTBALL:

FA CARLING PREMERSHIP: Barneley v Deby: Blackburn v Crystal Pelace; Cov-ently v Manchester (fdt. Sverion v Botton, Leads v Aston Viller, Lelotster v Shettleid Wednasday, Newcastle v Liverpool (5 0). NATIONWIDE LEAGUE First division

OTHER SPORT. BASKETBALL: Bodwelser Languer; for Jets v London Towers (Menchester Glants v Londont Royals) in Naucastie Engles v Wateria Royals in Stretland Starks v Crystel Palace (6.0) ICE HOCKET: Express Cup: Ayr Sco Engles v Marchester Storm (6.30): Stret Stretlans v Bernard (6.30): Stret Stretlans v Bernard (6.30): Stret



Llewellyn handed Kempton ride on Senor El Betrutti

By CHRIS McGrath

CHRISTMAS may be a time afgiving, but it is not an excess seasonal munificence that has made jump jockeys so willing to share the chance to partner Senor El Betrutti. Yesterday Carl Llewellyn became the latest to find his name on one of the most tantalising parcels under the Christmas tree - the ride on the grey in the King George VI Chase at

Kempton on Friday.
Two swashbuckling wins at. Cheltenham this season have revealed one of the most exciting steeplechase rides of recent years. Yet Jamie Osborne and Graham Bradley have compelling reasons to surrender the mount. Osborne smashed his wrist the day after winning the Murphy's Gold Cup; Bradley, who took over for the Tripleprint Gold Cup nine days ago, rides Suny Bay, the second favourite, at

Susan Nock, who trains just rwo other horses on a Cotswold farm, has offered Liewellyn the chance to savour the theatrical jumping of Senor El Betrutti - weather permitting. While the horse is likely to be declared tomorrow, the proviso remains that Kempton's yielding ground must dry out over Christmas.

Gerard Nock, the trainer's husband, said yesterday: "Carl has ridden him once before, but the most important thing was to have someone we could rely on to look after the from a field) has eluded infechorse should he be outclassed. We just want him back in one

Nock intimated that the horse would be risked with a modicum of cut underfoot. We wouldn't want it too sticky, however, and there would be no point running on soft, as he loses his action. But we do want to run. He's very well, and this will probably be the only chance we'll ever get to have a runner in the King

RICHARD EVANS

(3.20 Kelso) Rossel leves soft ground and a still finish so he should be in-his clement at Kelso today. The course and distance winhis carage and distance win-rhe coarse and distance win-ner takes a drop in class after a promising seasonal reappear-ance at Ayu.

NB: Ceilidh Boy [2,50 Kelso]

George. It would be wonderful if all three greys could run, they are all such speciacular, exciting horses."

It is the other two - One Man and Suny Bay - who dominate the market; despite representing trainers with some cause for anxiety about the wellbeing of their horses. Charlie Brooks has not had any runners during the past couple of weeks, but remains hopeful that Suny Bay (trained

tion. One Man's stablemate, Unguided Missile, ran poorly behind Cool Dawn at Ascot on Saturday, but Gordon Richards is also sanguine.

"A few weeks ago, maybe I'd have been worried, but the horses seem to be bucking up now," the trainer said. "Richard [Dunwoody] said that Unguided Missile felt better than he had at Haydock previously, and he had a lot of weight in that ground."
Richards is sounding as

though he would treat a third consecutive King George as the most emphatic of last laughs, so indifferent do One Man's critics seem to his brilliance. "Let's hope they'll have to eat their words again."

Those critics are wary of One Man off the bridle, albeit he has won 15 out of 19 completed races well enough on it. Kempton's sharp track is ideal for a horse with his speed, though few will be better suited by the race with Barton Bank, Suny Bay, Senor El Betrutti and One Man all tending to race in the

van - than Rough Quest. The 1996 National winner, who travels strongly off the pace, has pleased Terry Casey since his return from injury at Haydock nine days ago. "He feels in wonderful shape," Casey said. "As well, if not better, than he was before."



Paddy's Return lands a decisive success in the Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot on Saturday

Imperial Call warms up for Leopardstown

IF GREY is the theme of the King George VI Chase on Friday, the Christmas racing programme could yet lend the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup picture a rather different hue — green. On Sunday, Ireland's leading challenger should be revealed when Dorans Pride faces a rejuvenated imperial Call in the Eriesson Chase.

The 1996 Gold Cup winner, having rather lost his way last season, looked back on top of his game warming up over timber at Navan on Saturday - Cockney Lad, a slick specialist hurdler, holding him by only a length.
"Imperial Call is fine this morning." Fergie Suther-land, his trainer, said yester-day. "He'll be all right for Leopardstown. That was the object of the exercise."

Cockney Lad's trainer. Noel Meade, was no less pleased with his charge. "He will probably have another crack at Istabraq at Leopardstown on December 29 now," he said.

It is not difficult to envisage Paddy's Return one day developing into a Gold Cup horse - and one acclaimed by Ireland, even if jockey, owner and trainer have all emigrated. He looked much the best staying hurdler in training when making a stir-ring return to action in the Smurfit Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot on Saturday.

A 20-length success under Norman Williamson delight-Paddy O'Donnell, a Cricklewood pub landlord, and Perdy Murphy, now

based in Middleham, Murphy's training career has not been without its pit-stops, but he is confirming his ability to hit top gear with the right machinery in horses like French Holly and Paddy's

"He'll improve seven to ten pounds on that," Murphy said yesterday. "He has come back a lot stronger this season. He'll go to Haydock next month on his way to the Stayers' Hurdle at Cheltenham, and then back to Punchestown. We were thinking about going to France again as well, but we don't want to do him any damage if we're going chasing afterwards.

In the absence of Make A Stand, the Pertemps Christmas Hurdle at Kempton on Saturday drew just slx acceptors yesterday, al-though they did include two leading candidates to assume his Smortit Champion Hurdie crown in Shadow Leader and Sanmartino. Chai-Yo, I'm Supposin, Kerawi and

L'Opera complete the entry. The champion, out for the season with a leg injury, need not seek far within the Martin Pipe stable for inspiration how to triumph over adversity. Jonothan Lower hopes to have his first ride in 18 months at Market Rusen on Boxing Day. After being diagnosed as diabetic in June 1996, it took a year before the Jockey Club would permit him to become the first such rider under Rules — but he promptly broke a leg in a

1240 Lanniceran 1.10 Weather Wise 1.40 Charming Girl 2.10 Callindos 240 Malwood Castle

Timekeeper's top rating: 1.40 CHARMING GIRL

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACEDARD

Pacetard number: Sor-liquire form (F.— Intl. P.— pulled up. 17 — massibild 4-lder, B.— brength down. S.— stroped up. A.— rebased: D.— disposition, Horar's research. Doys green last number, Horar's research. Doys green last number, F. I Bat. (B.— billotars, V.— metr. H.— heavy). Owner in brackets, Trainin Age and whigh the property of the property o

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

12.40 TARREES CLARET NOVICES HURDLE (DAV I: £2,374: 2m) (10 runners) | MSAR 28 (0.5) (2.8) (1 BETTING: 9-4 Micho, 7-2 Histor 5-1 Sigge Pass, 5-1 Mariors, Among Blands, 10-1 Lacolarus, 14-1 Designation Regular Arche, 15-1 Tibes.

1988: ULTIMATE SMOOTHEE 4-10-12 A P McCay (5-4 p-ins) M Pipe 9 ms Figure assessed rider in covice chare at Lodice (2m. good); previously best Kedge Aocher Man 31 in 9-funner novice hundle at introseter (2m. good). Mictas 301 3rd of 7 to Clarton in novice hundle at Wedge (2m. good) helders 191 5to George Bull in novice hundle at Wedge (2m. good) helders 191 5to of 16 to Shahmar in novice hundle at Windsor (2m. good). Arrong laiends, 1161 2rd of 12 to Missacov Dancer in novice builde at Windsor (2m. 4. good). Arrong laiends, 1161 2rd of 12 to Missacov Dancer in novice claiming hundle at Ludicov (2m. good). HISAR will expreciate the return to burdles after executing on his chesting debut

1.10 TAMBERS CAVA CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP

Agen. 14-1 September 1-27 11-2 kg -Um. 13-2 Aways Greener 7-1 Westher Wise, Adminish Googl. 10-1 Rell Agen. 14-1 September Descrip Island Wester Schare, Anders, 16-1 others. 1996: SLEEPTITE 6-11-5 J Power (2-1 km) W G M Towns 16 nm

Barryten 211 6th of 10 to Domarion's Dream in handcap harde at Exelect (2m 21 good to soil). Deadig Island putted up in newton to Book Madden to morice chase at Hereford (2m 11 110yd, good) vs late 334 that if 6 to The Menders at Veter therefor (2m 11 110yd, good) vs late 334 that if 6 to The Menders at Veter therefor (2m 11 110yd, good) vs late 334 that if 6 to The Menders at Veter therefore at The Veter therefore (2m 11 10yd, good) vs late 334 that if 6 to The Menders at Veter therefore at The Veter therefore at 10 to The Menders at Veter therefore at 10 to The Menders where there at 2 to 11 to Dostonar in selling handless burdle at Menselburgh (3m good) Weares Remer patied up or mader chase at Sedgefield (3m 31, good); proviously 31 3rd of 10 to Decytong at useue itselfs at Tauston (3m 110yd, good) Vescount 18thy 214 2nd of 16 to South West Express in selling handless harder of 10 to 10 to Town And Coston in handcap harder at 10 to VISCOURT TULLY has been in good form and can gain a deserved success

1.40 TANHERS WINES NOVICES CHASE (£3,542 2m) (8 runners)

SETTINGS 9-4 Commany Con. 5-2 Gaie Ton. 3-1 Secretion. 5-1 Asamb Express, 12-1 Dance King, 14-1 Just For A. Roman Ex-Philosophia Cougats. Case Heavy

1996: SUPER COM 5-10-12 R Jabreson (4-11 Jan) R Lee 4 Jan

Avanti Express guiled up in acvice hunde at Exeler (2m 3i 110yd, good in soft), previously best into the Web 27 in 15-moner monte of the soft of the s CRAFAGNAG SARL summed well here last time and can go one better

		(OUR	SE S	PECIALISTS	·		
F	BANERS I tentherin Stanting Page Condition	### ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ##	365 211 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217	\$49.7 30.0 26.9 26.5 25.9 20.0	JOCKEYS IT TO THE T	18 15 7 3 8	Rides 56 59 14 28 68	532 1 22.1 23.3 21.4 21.4 20.6

2.10 HOECHST ROUSSEL PANACUR EBF MARES NH HOYICES HURBILE (\$2,918: 2m 5f 110yd) (16 numers)

4-1294P DOICE HOTTE 11 (P) (Comity States Holdings, Ltd) M Prop 7-11-5 A P McCoy
6 AURLEY LASS 17; (F) & Ency Late E Hischard; Mrs. J Promat 4-10-12 R Paramet
488-6 CALLENDOE 17 M Meediagnal J H Holgest 7-10-12 B Poston
100-404 F COLESCIAME 28 Globar Company Recognisher Press J Jone 5-10-12 J R Manacagh
403-1407 T SAMOY 286 (Febry Rad Parametrics) J Took 5-10-12 J R Manacagh
403-1407 T SAMOY 286 (Febry Rad Parametrics) J Took 5-10-12 P Hontery (2)
605 BOANN LEESEND 30 (F B E Radge) Mrs 5 Wilkinst 4-10-12 Suphiss Mitchell (6)
(9829-P MOONLERHER 6 (Sold Top States) Mrs 5 Wilkinst 4-10-12 Suphiss Mitchell (6)
(9829-P MOONLERHER 6 (Sold Top States) J Johnson 7-10-12 D Survives (5)
6900- MERVANA FRENCESS 219; (D Portson) of Proce 5-10-12 Mrs A Fragment
ALL PROMOVES 16 (S Broadchurg 5 Benedium 6-10-12 Mrs A Fragment
ALL PROMOVES 16 (S Broadchurg 5 Benedium 6-10-12 Mrs A Fragment
Consy August 17 (S Broadchurg 5 Benedium 6-10-12 Mrs A Fragment
CO SAMOUNTE 17 (A Word, R Buchter 6-10-12 Mrs A Fragment
VALLS WALE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 G Livensing
VALLS WALE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 G Livensing
VALLS WALE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 Mrs A VINGE VINGE (S Andrews) J Colony
2-3 WOARTS WAS 19 (SF) (G Misser) B Soult 7-10-12 Mrs A VINGE VINGE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 Mrs A VINGE VINGE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 Mrs A VINGE VINGE (S Andrews) J Ving 7-10-12 Mrs A VINGE VINGE (S Andrews) J VINGE (S ANDREWS)

Assess in novice hurdle at Heretord (2m 3f 110yd, good), Foleschive 311 4th of 8 to Churchtown Glim in novice hurdle at Luctiow (2m 5f 110yd, good). Hot 'N Saucy 18i 3rd of 13 to Spunder in NH flist sice at Foliatest (2m 2f, good). Harfrains Jana 19i 5th of 10 to Supreme Charm in conditional portice hurdle at Asset (2m 4f, good). Hoten Legend 11 5th of 18 to Vallant Memory in HH first sice at Tauriou (2m 1f, good). Ruby Rosa 33 6th of 18 to Latin Micross in merce HH first at Hereford (2m 1f, good) with Sandarde (Revist) bastern a distance 9th. Victor's Visse 18t 3rd of 8 to Lando In HH first race at Felenbarn (2m, good).

HURRICANE JAME is best of those with burding aspurtance, but is volnerable

2.40 tanners champagne handicap chase (£3,750: 3m) (8 rumber) Long kandicap: its Unbelievable 9-73.

Long regulate, is bulgensore 9-1a.

SETTIMO: 9-4 Medienoit Caste. 4-1 Fortania Coursa, 9-2 Drocelese, 6-1 Tellishery, 8-1 Sien The Waller, 10-18. Lifebylacchia. 12-1 Spaneh Lefth. Crown Equatry.
1990: ACT OF PARLAMENT 5-11-2 C O'Duyer (8-4) K Belley 6 sm.

Spenish Light 35i list of 5 to Suts Leet in handicap chase at Haydock (2m, good). Stop The Walter unsealed rider in handicap chase at Warwick (2m 41 10yd, good), previously 25i 3rd of 10 to Pennish Pride in handicap chase at Bangor (4m 11, good to soil). Dromhana beaten a distance 3rd of 5 to The Gooher in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2i, good to swin). Makwood Castle heat Special Account 10t in 7-turner handicap chase at Enter (2m 7i 110yd, soil). Tellicherry head Goldenswill net in 11-turner handicap chase at University (2m 3i, good). Forthwes Course 23i 5th of 1 to Carolle's Crusater in Landicap chase at Towcester (3m 11, good to soil); previously head Rebsand 7i in 8-tenner handicap chase at Towcester (3m 11, good to soil); previously head of 6 to Netmanage in handicap chase at Plumptin (2m 5i, good to 3m). MALWOOD CASTLE was impressive at Busin and can follow up

3.10 TANNERS BURGUNDY HANDICAP CHASE (23,469: 2m 4f) (7 runners) 35-120/ FRONTAGER 674 (S) (Chaddleworth Partnershop) C Egenton 7-11-10 N Williamston
139-47U NICH BIMFEROR 38 (BF.CD.F) (T Culties) A Canad 7-11-3 Nin A White (7)
PR-39-14 TRAIL BOSS 36 (F) M Broughlant Mess N Rollant 6-11-10 ... J Cultiny
39-2311 JASCHYS BOY 6 (D.F.E.S) (W Jones) J Brodiny 7-11-0 (Fox) ... R Judinston
1-USCS1 MR STURIONS GALE 14 (B.CD.F.S) (T Chappetif P Nichells 5-10-8 R Dermandly
PSPH-, PLANSKE MIRCALE 304 (B.B.D.F.S) LI Enabury 6 Benefit 7-10-2 R Partner
PSP-23 MAMMULANE 28 (Mrs. C Block) Mrs. C Block 7-10-1 ... S Wyrese

FOX 2016 Rep. 13-4 November 1-10-1 Rep. 13-10-1 Rep. 14-1 Rep. 14-1

SETTINES 5-2 Jason's Boy, 11-4 Mr Savong Galle, 4-1 Inch Emparer, 9-2 Trail Bous, 10-1 Flathing Missacle, 12-1 Mannalane, 18-1 Frontager 1998: TOO SHARP 8-10-13 J F Tilley (15-8 Inc) Miss H Knight 6 ran

Frontager 62! 9th of 15 to Jet Rules in nonce burdle grade 2 st Chepstow (2m 41 110yd, soft); previously 13/1 2nd of 16 to Masier or unceated rider in smaleur handleap chase at Antine (2m 61 good to soft), previously deat Mozene 8t in 9-coner assatest handleap chase at Antine (2m 61 good to firm). Trail Boss beaten a distance 4th of 5 to Oueen Of Spades in nonce chase at Chellenteam (2m, good), previously beat Front on Oas 171 in novice chase at Sandown (2m, good). Mr Strong Gele beat Grators 5f in novice chase at Herelord (2m 3t, good). Mr Strong Gele beat Grators 5f in novice handleap chase at Ludiow (2m 4th pood). Framing Maracte tell in novice handleap chase at Southwell (2m, good), previously beat Bazel Or Buss 13/4 in novice handleap chase at Werwick (2m, good to firm). Maranularia 111 3rd of 7 to Get Real in novice chase at Ludiow (2m, good). MR STRONG GALE has shown progressive form and can overcome a 6th rise in the handscap

3.40 TANNERS CLARET NOVICES HURDLE (Div 8: \$2,360: 2m) (9 numbers)

Examined 238 8th of 14 to Trutchev at novice handicap hurdle at Chettenham (2m 110yd, good) previously 21 2mil of 7 to Easy Usering in handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 11, good). Rosel Races bear Ganger Fox 1141 in 21-numer novice hurdle at Hurdingdon (2m 110yd, good). Rosel Touch 291 2ml of 20 to Ganger Fox in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good to soft) tamus 31 2ml of 11 to Pelay in novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, soft), previously 151 3ml of 8 to Ecanded (7h worse off) in novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 11, good to hum), preparing Danger 441 8th of 18 to Ernest William in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 31, good). What A Fuss 914 4th of 18 to Hazard A Guess in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good).

ROAD RACER son in determined style at Huntingsion and will be hard to beat

Carberry given ten-day ban

PAUL CARBERRY was banned for ten days by the Haydock stewards on Saturday. Carberry will be sidelined from December 29 to January 3 and January 5-8 after the stewards ruled he had attempted to block the passage of the 5-2 on favourite, Festive Teak, with his mount Premier Cru in the Thelwall Standard National Hunt Flat Race. Despite the incident, Festive Teak cruised to a comfortable success. Because of the foggy conditions the stewards were forced to reach their decision without the aid of a head-on camera, and Carberry described his suspension as "ridiculous". However, he has decided not to appeal.

KELSO

THUNDERER 12.50 Colour Code, 1.20 Carley Lad. 1.50 Charming Admiral, 2.20 Bailyline, 2.50 Judicious Captain, 3.20

GOING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

12.50 BRIAN HEWITT ASSOCIATES HOVICES HURDLE (£3,039; 2m 110yd) (14 runners)

1.20 SOUTHERN REPORTER HOVICES CHASE

2-1 Celus Gant. 4-1 Winter Bello, 6-1 Hobbin. 7-1 Carley Ltd, Desarto, 8-1 Manaca, 10-1 Allestani, 12-1 others.

1.50 MASON ORGANISATION MAIDEN HURDLE

(£3,081; 2m 6f 110vd) (19)

2.20 ERIC GILLIE HORSE TRANSPORT HANDICAP CHASE (\$4,379 2m 6t 110yd) (5) 5-2 Battyline, 11-4 Seeking Gold, 3-1 Tough Test, 7-2 Coder Lane, 10-1 Archit

 $2.50\,$ moet & Chandon Peckham Handicap Chase (£4,380: 3m 41) (5) 1 0-20 BETTER TIMES AHEAD 9 (6,5) & Richards 11-11-13

2 4-21 CPLOH BOY 21 (CO.F.G.5) Mrs. J Goodfellow 11-11-10 3 515/ ARENCROMENY CHIEF 611 (C,S) J Howard Johnson 12-10-10 4 13-4 JUDICIOUS CAPTAIN 37 (6.5) Mrs. J. Storey 10-10-9
Mr C. Storey
4 13-4 JUDICIOUS CAPTAIN 37 (6.5) Mrs. J. Storey 10-10-9
Mr C. Storey
53312 D'ARSILAY STREET 21 (8.C.5) W Kemp 8-10-0 S Durant (5)
14 D'Artiny Street. 5-7 Beller Times Ahand 31.4 Carlos Paris (5) 9-4 D'Aristay Street, 5-2 Bellior Times Ahead, 11-4 Coslidh Soy 5-1 Judicious Captain, 10-1 Abertrumby Crael.

3.20 BERWICK ADVERTISER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,276; 2m 110yd) (7) | 105-3 ROSSEL 36 (CD.F.5) P Monach 4-11-11 | Largho 44 | 122 | 14-15-12 | Largho 45 | 122 | 14-15-12 | Largho 46 | 122 | 14-15-12 | Largho 47 | 123 | 14-15-12 | Largho 47 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13-15-12 | 13

6 26/1 ELUSINE STAR 43 (D.G.) Hat: M Reveloy 7-10-3 . 6 Let 11.6 7 182- LATIN LEADER 249 (B.D.F.G) C Parker 7-10-0 . F Leathy 119 9-8 Exisses Star 5-1 Rossel, Common Sound, 11-2 Malletselauls, 6-1 Master Hytic, 7-1 Contraint 18-1 Latin Leader

COURSE SPECIALISTS

KELSO. Tramers; Mrs A Sembank, 8 empars from 22 minners, 35 45. Ms; M Revelley, 40 from 125, 32 0%. F Marphy 3 from 12, 25 0%, J Dun, 3 from 15, 20 0%, Mrs J Sociolelon, 10 from 52, 19.2%, J Hesserd Johnson, 17 from 89, 19.1%. Josefeyer, Mr C Wilson, 4 maners from 8 rides, 50 0%. P Minn, 50 from 15, 34.5%, Mr Bachonne, 8 from 24, 33.3%, E Callenghan, 4 from 15, 26.7%, P Carbony, 10 from 44, 22.7%, Mr C Shony, 5 from 29, 21.4%. LINGRED PAPE: Trainers: C Thombas, 5 simmers, from 18 runnies, 27 8%, Lady Henries, 12 from 52, 22 1%, J Berry, 39 from 182, 21 4%; W D'Scorpet, 21 from 124, 16.9%; Mess G Kelleway, 33 from 202, 16.3%, Johaleys: P Dobbs, 3 werenes from 7 rides, 42 9%, Forma D Generalo, 23 from 123, 18 7%, J Wilkinson, 6 from 34, 17.6%, 17 Ryes, 37 from 216, 17 1%; 8 Coctoone, 69 from 413, 16 7%.

LINGFIELD PARK

12.30 The Fed. 1.00 Village Pub. 1.30 Tangarine Flyer. 2.00 Touchanova. 2.30 Sylvan Dancer. 3.00 SARATOGA RED (nap), 3.30 Prix Da Clermont.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.30 inkerman handicap (Div I; £1.944, 50) (8 nunners) 1 0563 FRENDLY BRAVE 18 (6,8F,CO,F,S) Miss G Kellowy 7-10-0

1 DBG3 PRICHAL I BRAVE TO PRICE TO IL CONTRICTO SAN DESCRIPTO DE COMPANDA DE C

0000 THE FED 14 (D.F.CLS) J Byrn 7-8-1 7-4 Freedry Bose, 5-1 Goodbye Guiseren, 7he Fed. 13-2 Midmott Times. 7-1 Howtendoors Stad. Repotent Stw. 14-1 Methourne Princess, 20-1 George Lad 1.00 INKERMAN HANDICAP (DW 18: £1,944; 51) (8)

1 0294 MISTER RADER 18 (R.CDLF) & Wheeler 5-9-13 B 0T Leavy (7) 6
2 0032 JUST DISSOCRIT 10 (D.F.G) R Whitpair 5-9-7 M Tebbut 2 3 0035 SURE TO DREAM 18 (E) R Phithps 4-1-3 R Perham 1 4 0000 SUPER AD 30 (V.D.F.S) I Skyber 5-9-6 Whitpair 6 4000 SUPER AD 30 (V.D.F.S) I Skyber 5-9-6 P Dos (7) 7 6 0600 VILLAGE PUB 18 (B) R Cambridgen-Brown 3-9-4 Tebrah 7 0805 ALLSTARS DAMCER 138 T Healthin 4-3 Reclaim Monoty (7) 6 4006 SMP EXPRESS 14 (D.F.G) P Felgeb 4-9-1 Date School 6

11-4 Just Discident, 3-1 Missiar Ranter, 4-1 Sure To Dream, 7-1 Imp Express 8-1 Village Pub: Alistans Dancer, 14-1 Super Rocky, Supertag

1.30 LIGHT BRIGADE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: \$2.294: 51) (8) 1 04 BEST OF OUR DAYS 55 C Themion 9-0 . R Cochrane 6
2 000 BURNDEN DAYS 15 Mes. J Duzz 9-0 . 8 Webster 7
3 SUPER MAPOSE (C) John Berry 9-0 . M Fenton 5
5 3336 CARKAPENNY 87 (N) Mrs. L Sabtes 6-4 . 5 Withworth 2
6 0 JUST FOR TIMA 189 w 6 M Tumer 8-9
7 084 PEARLY QUEEN 18 G Bravey 8-9 . 9 D McSaffin (7) 1
7 084 PEARLY QUEEN 18 G Bravey 8-9 . 9 D Tomate 3
8 52 PRECIOUS PRINCESS 18 R Guest 8-8 . 5 Drownet 3

2-1 Precious Princess, 4-1 Best of Our Days, Tangenne Flyer, 6-1 Chilispetray, Painty Queen, 10-1 Super Impose, 20-1 Just For Titla, 25-1 Burnden Days

2.00 ALMA NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-0, £2,830; 6f) (10)

3-) Wolfmani, 4-1 Blue Sharlow 9-2 Batchworth Betie, Moon's Magne, 13-2 Ob Babe, 10-1 Dance To The Beal, 16-1 Base, Style, 20-1 others.

2.30 THIN RED LINE MAIDEN STAKES

(£3,501, 7f) (15)

1 4080 CASTLE ASHBY JACK 12 P Howling 3-9-0 ... R Cuchmanb 1
2 0300 DURARIE GEORGE 18 J Endger 3-9-0 ... J Quinn 9
3 425 SUPER MONARCH 201 (BF) S Dou 3-9-0 ... W Ryan 10
4 0 TOWNEN 24 J Bridger 5-9-0 ... N Adams 11
5 0033 WITCHIRBOER 24 (V,Br) Mrs L Shrines 5-9-0 S Withworm 4
6 MATA N WALES P Factics 3-8-9 ... S Withworm 4
6 MATA N WALES P Factics 3-8-9 ... A Medition 6
8 BO'JIST P Hayward 5-9-9 ... D Briggs 2
9 HOLDERWESS BERL 631 Mess J Crace 4-8-9 ... D Briggs 2
11 0 MARSAS S PT 235 Proved 3-9-9 ... Carolyn Bates (7) 5
10 1-65 CEEN SALLY 20 R Guest 4-8-9 ... Extra (7) 5
11 0 MARSAS S PT 235 Proved 3-9-9 ... P Doe (7) 14
12 0052 MESCOMMUCT 20 6 L Moon 3-9-9 ... P Doe (7) 14
13 0-550 PRETTY SARRY 237 J Berry 3-9-9 ... P Roberts (3) 15
14 0000 ROYAL ERRIEDH 10 F Whoeler 3-8-9 ... P Roberts (3) 15
15 0004 SYLYAN DANCER 28 6 Branety 3-8-9 ... P Roberts (3) 15
10 0004 SYLYAN DANCER 28 6 Branety 3-8-9 ... P Doe 3-1 Sylvan 11-4 Super Monarch, 7-2 Witchlinder, 5-1 Blue Lamp, 6-1 Misconduct, 7-1 Sylvan Dancer, 10-1 Castle Ashby Jack, 14-1 Pretty Sharp, 20-1 others

3.00 CRIMEA HANDIĆAP (£2,921: 1m 2l) (14)

1 2212 KARL 12 (C) 61 Macm 3-16-0 ... A Clark 13
2 2322 CLASSIC FRO 20 (D) F) Hadrond 4-70-0 ... M Fentins 5-3
3 0064 DIGPRST 10 (V.C.9) J Bridger 7-9-13 ... R Hughes 8-4
2 0085 DIGFR ARCH 123 (CD) W Mac 4-9-13 ... J Williamson (7) 2
5 0513 MASSYAR SEMENTEEN 20 (CD) H Callings right 3-9-11
6 0213 SARATOGA RED 4 (V.C.) W O'Gomma 3-9-8 ... R Contract 9-7
7 0001 PIZISHED STEEL 10 (B.CD) Lady Herries 3-9-7 P Don (7) 10
8 2006 CHANGACHOUN TS 5 Don 3-9-4 ... R Pentam 12
9 0515 COMPRONTED 16 RE-CD-FG, SF 5 Don 8-9-4 W Ryza 4-10 0000 FORT KNIX 3 (B.C.F.F.G.) F Done 8-9-3 ... S Donware 3-10 0005 SAMMGHAI LI B (C) M Fettestyn-Eodiey 5-9-9 P Ruberts (3) 14-12 1143 HARLEOLIN WALL 10 (CD.F.G.) R O'Selfkan 6-8-10 J Orlicon 1-13 5160 ABL/TI TRANCKSE 3 (CD.F.) R Flower 4-8 B. Mackin Dwyer 6-14 GAOS REVENS MAGCT 11 (S.) L Bridger 4-8-7 ... N Arksins 7-8-2 Potistied Sizet, 5-1 Classer Find, 11-2 (ABL 7-1 Massyer Sovienteen, Harleophia 9-2 Polished Sizer, 5-1 Classic Find, 11-2 Kalil. 7-1 Massyer Seventeen, Hartequito Well. 10-1 Saratoga Sizil. 12-1 Digitasi, 14-1 others

3.30 SEVASTOPOL APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£1,999: 1m 5f) (8)

1 2019 MGHT CTT 28 (C.S.) K Buste 6-9-10 P Don (3) 4
2 1900 SOURE'S OCCASION 33J (B.C.) R Cetts 4-9-3 J Fourte (5) 7
3 3500 SOURE 20 (C.F.) T Mails 3-8-12 Linea Nazioti (7) 8
4 0125 TARRY 48 F.G.S.) Mais 6 Kelleway 4-8-11 J Williamson (5) 1
5 1032 REHAMB 10 (V.C.) Mais 6 Sonders 4-8-7 P Dohn (5) 1
6 0700 OUR MAIN MAIN 15J (V.) R Windster 7-8-4 F Faultiers (8) 7
0641 PRIS DE (3.LEPMANN 15 (B.D.) 6 Lisers 3-7-11 P Bradlay (8) 8
6 0000 EXECUTIVE OFFICER 10 (6) R Power 4-7-10 Linea A Poli 3 7-4 Pris De Clermont, 5-2 Reheath, 6-1 Night Cdy, 8-1 Soden, 10-7 Squire's Occasion, Tarry, 14-1 Executive Officer, 16-1 Dur Majo Majo.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Parts 1.00 Superteo. 1:30 Super Impose: 3.00 Dignesi, 3:30 Prix De Clermont, Ludiows 1:10 Roil Again

A commence of the second property of the company of the second

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

schooling accident.

Ascot

Going: good to soit, soit in pisces 12.36 (2m 3) 110yd ch) 1, Chier's Song (R Durwoody, 2-1): 2, Jerieries (3-1) Ground Nat (5) 11-70 tev 3 ran NR Casch Cn 4) S Dow Tote, 22.50 DF 51.00, CSF 25.23 1.45 (3m if 110)d hdiei 1, Pacidy's Return (N Williamson, 6-1) 2, Proberti (7-4 tav); 3, Bimeey (33-1) 7 ran 191, 81 F Murphy Tote 17.20; 9260, 61 70. DF 65 70 CSF 619.84 2.20 Gm 110yd chj 1, Cool Dewn (A Thom-lon, 5-2 kny; 2, Herwell Lad (15-1), 3, Call II A Day (7-2) 6 mn 9, 221 R Alner Tote C3 20; 51 80, 53 60 DF 519 20 CSF 529.21

586 19 3.20 (2m 110yd hdie) 1. Mr Markham (P Hdds, 9-2); 2. Sharpical (6-1), 3. I'm Supposin (6-6 lay) 6 nm 2, 51 J Giltord Tote 65 10; 62 10, 52 50 DF 612 30 CSF 526.23

Jeolopot: not won (pool of £38,418.30 carried lowerd to Ludlow today).
Placepot: £1,888.00. Quadpot: £323.70. Haydock Park

1 Exty CUCK F CITY
1 Exp (10 Fig. 1) 14 ran
1.00 | Deseil Dancer (5-2); 2, Sromy
Passage (4-7 ley), 3, Ballyvoughan (20-1) 4
ran, NR Jympan Johnny
1.38 | Panger Stoane (13-2); 2, Sant Cel
(100-30); 3 Sier Selection (5-2 faty) 5 ran
2.10 1, Him Of Prase (11-10 faty), 2, Full Of
Outs (11-2), 3 Court Melody (9-2) 8 ran
2.40 1, Malestor Sound (5-1), 2, Iond York 2.40 1, Majestic Sound (5-1), 2, Lord York (4-1); 3, Stonesby (8-4 law, 7 ran 3.10 1, High Altoruce (5-1), 2, Brachy Head (6-4 Rey); 3 valuent Warmor (5-1); 6 ren. NR. Ostenctive; Spanish Light 3.40 1, Festive Teek (2-5 tov); 2 Tell Monty (20-1); 3, Time Warnor (6-1); 9 ren

Lingfield Park 12.15 1. Province (13-2): 2. Noble Tom (11-4), 3. Kelly Mac (13-8 lav) 4 ran. 12.50 1 Cam'i Say (7-1); 2, Cost Spot (12-1). 3, Wonderfull Polly (11-2) Gretom: 13-8 lov 9

1.80 1, Miss Roberto (5-2); 2. Maniena (9-4 Maniena 19-4 Maniena (9-4 Maniena 19-4 Maniena 19-4 Maniena 19-4 Maniena (5-2), 3. Zaterelli (4-1), 12 maniena (5-2), 3. Zaterelli (4-1), 12 maniena (5-2), 3. Zaterelli (4-1) (0-2), 6, Zaterelli (4-1), 12 ran 2.25 1 Royal Tossi (7-1); 2, Arbey Royal (6-4 tav) 3, Time Creeper (15-8), 11 ran 2.55 1, Lets Rumbia (9-2); 2, Take The Bucksten (11-2), 3, Dencettlyoutrop (11-2), Thermal Wanter 11-8 tav 9 ran, NR Tartan Glory Gabry 3.25 1, Repeat Offer (9-2), 2 The Pickled Duke (16-1); 3, Royal Valor (33-1) Polar Rambler 13-8 fev 15 ran

Uttoxeter 12.20 1, Rectory Garden (7-4 tev) 2. General Pongo (15-8); 3, Sheetin Lad (6-1), 4 12.55 1 Milker Stam (6-1); 2. Danu (33-1); 3. Riot Leader (6-1) Cypress Avenue 9-2 lav 15 ren NR Tellaporky
1.30 1, Polar Prospect (7-1) 2. Bigsound (4-1); 3 Koethery (20-1) Bold Gart 9-4 lav 15 ran NR Go Betenna.
2.00 1, High Mood (11-4) 2 Risgamuli (11-8 lav); 3. Zartoon (7-4) 3 ran NR: Henry Cone.
2.31 1 Bet Blazer (4-1); 2 Mr. Moren. (8-2). 2 30 1, Red Blazer (4-1): 2, Mr Monarty (9 2), 3, Beggars Banquet (9-2). Spondid 3-1 (5): 6 3.00 1, Lake Kariba (1-3 lev) 2, Tenne King (3-2) 3, The Fence Simpler (50-3.30 1 Phosneigr Bey (13-2), 2, Summyne Speciel (9-2); 3, Brogemer (6-4 tax) 15 ran.

JUMPS LEADERS

TRAINERS

JOCKEYS



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Reports and scores from the FA Carling Premieralip

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Calls cost 50p per minute

Penblas Tries Farmer, Muler, Core Muler, Pense Muler 3. Kirkcaldy: Tries: Garner, S. Harnelt, Herrington, Cone: Simore 3 Parz Girmore POSTPOMED: Musselburgh v Dunder HSSP.

Swanges 25 Whitiand

Swinness: Tries: Back, J Griffithe, Moriety, Ress, Cost: A Thomas. Per: A Thomas. Whitenet Tries: Evens 2. Corr. Hopkins.

. 12

FOR THE RECORD (Japan) (112.0, 108.5) 198.4; 5, D Thomes (Gar) (109.6, 113.5) 195.4; 8, M Hodiwarth (Austria) (170.0, 111.5) 193.7; Yesterday: 1, M Hamida (Japan) (117.5, 123.5) 236; 2, P Petertie (Stonalité) (119.5, 120.5) 232.5, 3, Hompscher (115.5, 123.5) 231.2; 4; H Hompscher (115.5, 123.5) 231.2; 4; H Hompscher (115.5, 123.5) 231.2; 4; H Hompscher (116.5, 123.5) 229.6; 6, A Goldberger (Austria) (116.0, 118.5) 224.1; Leading World (Jup positions: 1, Harada 477pts; 2, Thoma 486; 3, J Stonara (Ph) 400; 4, Peterja 361; 5, A Widthecki 305; 6, Kasei 258, Leading Nation's Cup positions: 1, Japan 1,246; 2, Austria 365; 3, Friend 877. C Nicham and M McClain (US) (44.581, 45.294) 1.29.855; 6, Y Markel and T Ruddiph (Gar) (44.864, 45.227) 1.30.091, Leading World Cup positions: 1, Grammette and Mestin 1.29; 2, Plantent stainer and Hissalisader 116; 3, K Brugger and W Huber (b) 107; 4, C Thropp and G Sheer (US) 103; equal 5, D Tchespan and V Knelb (Russ) and Steel and Wolter 65, Women: Singless: 1, S Otto (Ger) (44.815, 44.877) 1.29.302; 2, S Kraushasz (Ger) (44.814, 44.976) 1.29.307; 3, B Niedeminuber (Gar) (44.701, 44.997) 1.29.656; 4, A Neumer (Russine) (44.986, 45.066) 1.29.381; 8, A Taguesnier (Jashe) (45.006, 44.936) 1.29.581; 8, Taguesnier (Jashe) (45.006, 44.936) 1.29.581; 6, Kraushasz (Jashe) (45.006, 45.006) 1.29.381; 6, C Livijer (US) and N Otherber (II) 101; 4, Niedernhuber 90; 5, Kraushasz 80; 6, Neumer 83. Millorn 6: Mayfield 4 Featherstone Lions 28: Moldgreen 22: Stodel 20; Myton Warlors v Noterior Rostpornet; Ovenden 30 Wilgen St. Patidos 22: Queens 42: Beverley 18: Sterningtey 10 Feathers 12: Wigen Rose 8: 6 West Hall 37: Woolston 22 Othern St. Annes 0; Worth Village 4 Thorstell 52: Yesterday, Redell 14 Lock Lane 18. LEAGUE: First division: Bonegrass Grove 6 Mendisshill 2: Western Kilck Photopoint, 11 Aberdeen Bon Accord 0; Extinburgh Ladies 7 Cydenciels 1, Aberdeen Bon Accord 0 Bonegrees Grove 13; Mendieshill 0 Edinburgh Ladies 12; Cydenciels 0 Western Kilck Photopoint 5; Mendisshill 8 Aberdeen Bon Accord 2; Bonegrass Grove 15; Cydencials 2; Edinburgh Ladies 1 Western Kilck Photoprint 2. super-middleweight .chemplomehip: D Francis (Basingstoke) (st. F. Seiller (Fr) rise 8th British and WSO trass-continental light-middleweight chemplomahip: E Bing-ham (Manchester) bit N. Thurbin (Loughton) rise 12th. FREESTYLE SKIING LA PLACRIC: World Cup: Mogula: Ment 1, J Moseley (US) 26.72ms; 2, F Ougler (Fr) 26.55; 3, L Lassila (Fin) 25.74; 4, P Sunchery (Swe) 25.55; 5, J Motor (US) 25.51; 6, J Latriela (Fin) 25.07, Leading World Cup positions; 1, Moseley 298;58; 2, J-L Brassard (Con) 26.8; 8, Broton; (Can) 288; 4, J Parminack (Swe) 208; 5, D Gestifier (Can) 200; 6, Ougler 172 Wormer; 1, M Elman (Swe) 24.07; 2, A Battale (US) 25.98; 3, G Ramacher (Gen) 23.51; 4, K Traa (Nor) 25.41; 5, T Mitterrapyer (Sar) 23.14; 6, D Weinbrecht (US) 23.06; Leading World Cup positions; 1, A Belging (Dan) 260; 2, Mitterrapyer 280; 3, 8 Schmitt (Gen) 208; 4, Ellman 198; 5, Reuscher 198; 6, Traa (Nor) 192. rsc 12th.

MAYSFIELD LIBSURE CENTRE, Bellinst:
Commonwealth crusserweight championating. D Content (Bellinst, holder) bt R.
Notion (Berningterm) pis. Crusterweight
(Ande): C O'Grady (Koldere) bt T Redman
(Dolgaul sec 2nd. Middleweight (Ande): D
Ryan (Dongas) bt D Radford (Hemismoth)
rsc 1st. Light-weiterweight (Ande): D
Ryan (Dongas) bt C Policot (Bedwordt) est
30. Light-weiterweight (Ande): G
McClarmon (Lugan) bt M Smith (Seemssa)
pis Flyweight (Ande): C Motist (Bellins)
draw with G McClard (Malley); (Bends): D
Kelly (Bellinst) bt A Hernis (Berningham)
pts. ATLANTA: Ploneer Sout: Kentucky St 30 Calgery 10 20 7 27 98 111 MOSCOW: Beldies Cup: Sweden 1 Finland 3; Russia 1 Czech Republic 7. NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: First division: Blacktrook 7 East Leeds 4; Millord 18 Berrow Island 24; Shew Cross 14 Wigen 9 Ludges 12 Second division: Ecoles 42 Dodworth 16; York /__m 6 New Earswick 6. KONTICLATH, Finland: World Cup: Men: Pursuit (12.5km): 1. 5 Rischer (Ger) 1hr 3min 14 sbass; 2. Ligedor (Ger) 1hr 3min 14 sbass; 2. Ligedor (Ger) 3.1. 4. V Margounov (Rusa) 27. 0. 5. R Gross (Ger) 40.7. 6. F Luch (Ger) 53.5. Leading World Cup positione: 1, Flocker 107 pts; 2. Luck 97; 3. P Moustamov (Rusa) 95; 4. Gross 92; 5. Margourov 90; 6. Wustanield 93. Relay (4.7.5km). 1, Russis 129:58.0; 2. Belanus 122:18.7; 3. baby 128:23.8. 4. Austria 128:32 5. Germany 128:48.3, 6. Fritlend 129:10.5. Leading World Cup positions: 1, Russis 150ts; 2. Listy 49; 3. Germany 47; 4. Norwey 46, 5. Belanus 44 Women: Pursuit (10km): 1. M Forsborg (Swe) 1:111 1sec; 2. S Ichmouratove (Russ) 21 flanc; 3. M Zellner (Ger) 4.8; 4. U District of State (Ger) 15. 5. Volume 101; 8. C Nogrey (Fr) 78. Relay (4.7.5km): 1. Casch Republic 142:09 2.2. France 142:19 2.3. Germany 143:09.3, 4. Russia 143:521.3; 6. Poland 143:55.4; 6. Lapan 145:41.5 Leading World Cup positions: 1. France 56pts; 2. Crach Republic 143:55.4; 6. Lapan 145:41.5 Leading World Cup positions: 1. France 56pts; 2. Crach Republic 1. Russia 2.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 1. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 1. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 1. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 2. Crach Republic 1. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 2. Crach Republic 2. Russia 1.43:521.3; 3. Germany 50; 4. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Crach Republic 2. Crach Republic 2. Russia 3.60pts; 2. Germany 3.643; 3. France 3.044. ICE HOCKEY **ICE SKATING** MENICH: Chemptons Series Final: Leading time positions; Men: 1, Ilia Kulik (Fluss) 2. Discribred placements; 2, E. Stolko (Carl) 26; 3, T. Eldradge (US) 4.5; 4. E. Yaqudhi (Russ) 70; 5, E. Piashianterio (Russ) 70; 6, 1. Pashianterio (Russ) 70; 6, 1. Pashianterio (Russ) 70; 6, 1. Pashianterio (Russ) 4.0; 4, 1. Tulorisdi (US) 1.5; 2. T. Samecarenio (Gor) 3.5; 3. M. Bugyakayak (Russ) 4.0; 4, 1. Statistaye (Russ) 60; 5, F. Sokolove (Pluss) 7.5. Paice: 1, E. Berezhnaya and A. Stifnasuldos (Pluss) 2.0; 2, M. Wottel and I. Statistaye (Pluss) 4.5; 4, Xus Shan and Hongbo Zhao (Chira) 60; 5, E. Shan and G. Petton (Russ) 2.0; 2, S. L. Lobacheva and I. Avenduch (Russ) 2.0; 5, E. Russ-Poii and M. Mangaglio (f) 10.4; 6, E. Punsalan and G. Swallow (US) 11.6. EXPRESS CUP: Shelfield 5 Manchester 4 SUPERILEAGUE: Newcastle 1 Bracknell 4 SUPERLEAGUE: Newcastle 1 Bracknell 4.

P W D L F A Pts

*Manchester 16 9 3 4 72 46 22
Notitiophern 16 9 2 5 59 48 20

*Ayr 14 8 1 5 52 41 19

*Sheffield 16 7 2 8 58 48 17

*Bracknell 15 7 1 7 48 58 16

*Carolif 13 6 2 5 42 42 15

Beeingstoke 15 4 3 8 47 59 12

*Newcastle 16 3 0 13 33 70 7

*Does not include less right's matches
NATIONAL LEAGUE (N-L) *Frideny: Buffalo 1 Montreal 0; Detroit 5 Now Jessey 4;

Pittiburgh 3 Colorado 3; Proceits 6 Areshelm 2 Setundery Philadelphia; Proceits 6, New York Rangers 2 Tarross Bay 2; Los Angeles 4 Coloran 1; New York Instruction 1 (OT); St. Louis 4 Pittiburgh 1; Toronto 3 Phoents 2 Chicago 5 Vencours 0

Esstem Conference SKIING SPEED SKATING . ALTA BADIA, Ruly: World Cup: Marc Glent stelom: 1, C. Mayer (Austria) (Imin 8.98esc, 1:11.09) 220.07; 2, M vorr Guenigen (Switz) (1:10.17), 1:11.29) 221.40; 3, H Maiser (Austria) (1:10.13, 1:11.50) 221.40; 4, S. Bustria) (1:10.13, 1:11.50) 221.40; 4, S. Bustria) (1:10.13, 1:11.50) 221.40; 3, H Maiser (Austria) (1:10.13, 1:11.150) 221.40; 3, 1:11.77) 221.70; 5, H Kinguss (Austria) (1:10.32, 1:11.80) 222.25; 6, S. Vogineliser (Austria) (1:10.32, 1:11.80) 222.25; 6, S. Vogineliser (Austria) (1:10.32, 1:11.80) 222.25; 1. Lauding World Cup positions: Glent station: 1, Von Gruenigen 200tes; 2, Eberharter 230; 3, Maier 220; 4, Mayer 189; 5, Kneuss 145; 6, S. Locher (Switz) 141, Overall: 1, Meier 488; 2, Eberharter 230; 2, J. Saroti (Austria) 300; 6, Mayer 222, VAL D'ISFRE: World Cup: Worner: Sillow: 1, Y Novem (Switz) (46,54esc, 45.79) 17min 22.38esc; 2, D Compagnord: (47,654esc, 45.79) 17min 22.38esc; 2, D Compagnord: (48,63,46.77) 1:33.14; 8, K Korrick (15) (48,53,47.01) 1:33.28; 4, H Horrick (Slovenis) (46,00) 44.811; 32.81; 4, H Gerg (Ger) 44,63,44,677) 1:33.14; 8, K Korrick (15) (49,34).36; 4, F Massnada (Fos 3.40).81; 5, A Weschter (Austria) 34.11,77; 6, 1 Helen Marrien (Nor) 341,76; Leading World Cup positions: Statom: 1, Novem 180pts; 2, Steggal 145; 5, Korrick; 90; 73, Et 100; 4, Massnada 50; 5, Wantiar 45, Correla; 1, Setzinger 830; 2, Gerg 75, Compagnord 425; 6, I Kostner (0) 395. GUILDFORD: Tessa British short track championshiper Men: Soom: Finel: 1, D. Alardes 44.87sn; 2, M. Rowe 44.71; 3, M. Jasper 44.84, 1,500m; Finel: 1, N. Gooch 2mm 37.55se; 2, Rowe 237.91; 3, Alardice 238.61 3,000m; Finel: 1, Gooch 5,08.04; 2, R. Mitchell 5,11.75; 3, I Caver 5,12.79. Overall: 1, Gooch 2, Rowe; 3, Alardice. Women: Soom: Finel: 1, Delmer 47.68ser; 2 S. Lindsey 48.67; 3/Williams 48.71; 1,000m; Finel: 1, Painer 48.71; 1,000m; Finel: 1, Painer 231.97; 2, Williams 234.96; 3, F. Lindsey 234.91. Overall: 1, Painer; 2, Lindsey; 3, Williams. GOLF NORDIC SKIING DAVOS, Switzerland: World Cup: Ment: Classic (20-rn): 1, B Dachile (Not) 1hr 19min 20 3sec; 2 T Abspared (Not) 1:198:2.5.3 E devme (Not) 1:20-16.2.4 F Entl (Not) 1:20-16.2.5 S. J. iconsists fin) 1:21-16.1; 6, A Veenpalu (Est) 1:22-26.9. Leading World Cup positions: 1, Deshibe 482-pts: 2, Alsgeard 386; 3, V Smirnsv. Kazakratan 204; 4, Jerne 127; 5, H Foreberg (Sue) 158; equal 6, M Frederikason (Swe) and S Sivertsen (Not) 1-8, Women, Classic (15-rn): 1, E Veetbe (Pluss) 44min 1.3sec; 2, S Nageleine (Russ) 44-23.8; 5, A Moon-Guiden (Not) 44-14.5; 5, O Damicova (Russ) 44-28.8; 6, T Dybendeh (Not) 44-12.3. Leading World Cup positions: 1, B Martinsen (Not) 316; 2, Lazzaine (Russ) 278; 3, Moon-Guiden 246; 6, S Nageléine (Russ) 194. Leading Nation 2 Cup positions: Men: 1, Norwey 1, 857; 2, Sweden 1,020; 3, Buly 178; 4, Austria 546; 5, Friilend 426. Women: 1, Russia 1,733; 2, Norwey 1,348; 3, Buly 178; 4, Austria 546; 5, Friilend 426. Women: 348. Overalt: 1, Norwey 3,203; 2, Russia 2,078; 3, Italy 1,448; 4, Sweden 1,291; 5, Finlend 738. CLYMPIA: International show/umping championshipae. Volvo World Cap qualifier: 1, PS Priarmos (I, Bearbaum, Gar) Otauts, 38 Sasec; 2 Nustria (P Charles, Ira) O. 38-80; 3, Vritual Village II*s Otro (G Billington, GB) 0, 406; 4, San Patingramo Cassiri (F Stootheak, Ger) 0, 414.5. Leading European League positions: 1, E Vieutan (Fiol) 82;ts; 2, 1, Necorg (Ser) 51; equal 25, B Romp (Hol) and P Reymalases (Fiol) 48; 11, R Smith (38) 35; equal 25, M Whataker (GB) 22; equal 31, Billington 19, Snowman Top Scorer 1, Vritual Village Rand (J Whataker, GB) 1, 330;ts; 2, Rannins (Genthaum) 1,270; 3, Caral II (J-M Noolas, Fr) 1,200 Christmes Carrol Status; 1, Bernations (P Deleveau, Fr) 45,35sec; 2, Riding Ravolution Etarthy (J Risher, GB) 45,45; 3, Trudo Jarraque (P Pilippaetra, Bel) 45,09; 3, Trudo Jarraque (P Pilippaetra, Bel) 53,00; 2, Trudo Jarraque (P Pilippaetra, Bel) 53,00; 2, Trudo Jarraque (P Pilippaetra, Bel) 53,50; 2, Hester (A Fernandez-Duran, Scharnes Masterra, 1, Serter Rush On (Beerbaum) 8, 30 Crms (M Parinel, GB) 53,50; 2, Hester (A Fernandez-Duran, Scharnort, Fr) Otacha, 37,52; 2, Sprehe Rush On (Beerbaum) 8, 30,79; 3, San Paingramo Cassari (Stoothrein) 3 in first round. EQUESTRIANISM COOLUM, Australia: Coolum Classic: Leading linel scores (Aus urises stated): 276: C Parry 70, 68, 71, 67, 279: R Allenby 70, 70, 73, 86, 263: S 7st 72, 70, 68, 72, 284: K Drucs 71, 72, 71, 70, L Parsons 68, 69, 78, 71; W Smith 69, 73, 73, 69, 285: C Jones 73, 68, 71, 73, 78 Byrd (US) 89, 73, 72, 71, 280: P Stewart (US) 69, 77, 72, 68; R Willia: 70, 73, 73, 70. HOCKEY BSL SOUTH LEAGUE: Kert/Susser: Blacktreeth 6 Merclen Russets 1: Worthing 2 Brighton 2.

DTZ MEDLAND COUNTIES INDOOR CHARPONSHEP: At Perdisental Leisure Centrer: Pool A: Bromagnove 1 South Nottingham 4: Cannock 3 Bromagnove 1: South Nottingham 5: Khalse 4 Bromagnove 1: South Nottingham 1 Kreisa 3; South Nottingham 1 Cannock 5. Pool B: Berford Tigers 10 West Bridgiord 1; Leek 2 Berford Tigers 10 West Bridgiord 1; Leek 2 Berford Tigers 1; Leek 7 Loughborough Students 7. Loughborough Students 8: Bridgiord 1; Loughborough Students 8: West Bridgiord 3 Leek 9. At Wyre Forest Glades Ammir. Pool C: Beaston 7 Countingham 1 Kreisa 8: West Bridgiord 3 Leek 9. At Wyre Forest Glades Ammir. Pool C: Beaston 7 Countingham 1: Harborne 9 Otton and West Warwicks 2; Kidderminster 3 Herborne B: Kidderminster 2 Beaston 7; Otton and West Warwicks 5 Kidderminster 3. Pool D: Edgbaston 6 Strewsbury 4; Edgbaston 7 Stoupport 1; North Stafford 4 Shupport 5; North Stafford 5 Edgbaston 7; Strewsbury 2 North Stafford 5 Stoupport 10 Strewsbury 2 North Stafford 10 Strewsbury 2. WOMEN'S WEST LEAGUE: Premier division; Estater 0 St Ausbell 2. WOMEN'S 9COTTISH NATIONAL **TABLE TENNIS** LACROSSE ATHENS: Men's European Leegue: First division, first leg: Graece 4 England 2 (England transes first: B Billington bit K Kreenga 21-15, 21-19; C Prean bit Kordoulis 21-15, 21-19; A Peny lost to K 7solosis 18-21, 14-21; Prean and Peny lost to Ticiosis and P Gioris 21-3, 19-21, 15-21; Prean lost to Kreenga 14-21, 10-21; Billington lost to Ticiosa 14-21, 19-21 SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Wacordana 12 Sheffield University Old Cheedle Hutme 5 Poynton 8; Hulmalana 5 Heaton Mersey 2; Stockport 6 Cheedle 10. LUGE CALGARY: World Cur: Men; Singles: 1, A Zeaggeler (0) [45,854-45,465] 1m/n S1.120sec; 2, J McDer (Ger) [45,710,45.463] 1.31.173; 3, G Head (Ger) [45,710,45.463] 1.31.1203; 4, N Huber (0) [45,740,45.463] 1.31.203; 4, N Huber (0) [45,740,45.463] 1.31.203; 5, G Gleinscher (Austrie) [45,760,45.76] 1.31.316, Leading World Cup positions: 1, Canggeler 1.95cte; 2, Huber 116; 3, Gleinscher (10; 4, A Demisscherko (Plus) 101; equal 5, M Reinfarter (Austrie) and Hack 87, Doubles: 1, M Gehrmeite and B Merin (US) [44,44,44,4874] 1.29.316; 2, S Krausse and J Beirenck (Ger) [44,534,44,854] 1.29.388; 3, G Pierikensteiner and O Hasethecker (1) [44,701,44,988] 1.29.667; 4, S Stell and S Wibber (Ger) [44,683,45,141]; 1.29.824; 8, Pearl Dat in Neserge 77.1. 19-21
HONG RONG; (TTF Pro-Tour Finals: Ment. Singles: Send-dinals: Wang Light (China) bt. J.M. Sahw. (Bel) 21-10, 21-19, 21-10; V. Sanssonov (Bela) bt Z Primorac (Cro) 23-21, 12-21, 21-17, 22-20. Finals: Sansonov bt. Wang 21-16, 21-14, 14-21, 21-17. Doubles: Final: Kong Linghui and Lu Guolang (China) bt. J. Roeskop! (Gar) and V. Sanssonov (Bela) 18-21, 21-18, 21-12, 21-19, Womer: Singles: Sansi-finals: Li Ju (China) bt. Perk Hee Jung (S Kor) 21-8, 21-19, 21-19, 21-12, 21-12, 21-12, 21-13, 21-14, 21-17, 21-18, 21-18, Northeast division
18 11 8 44 100 85
19 14 8 49 107 90
16 14 8 36 91 92
15 17 4 34 88 85
13 18 5 31 92 100
11 16 6 28 81 93 Pitaburgh Montreal Boston Ottowe Carolina Buffalo **RUGBY LEAGUE** J Jones (U.S. holder) rsc 4th
LONDON AREMA: World Boxing Council
super-middleweight chemptonship: T
Matinga (SA) bt if Rigid (Purcom, holder)
bs World Boxing Organisation super-lestherweight championship: B Jones (Cardiff) bt W Paleco (Col) pts. W8O lightmiddleweight championship: R Wright
(US) bt A Doddern (Islangton) rat 6th, W8O
straw-weight championship: E Jamili (Phil)
bt M Cartwell (Ethem) rsc 8th. European Western Conference
Central division

W L T Pts F A

34 9 4 52 118 77

20 9 7 47 118 91

21 12 4 48 109 16

14 66 34 97 102

12 17 5 29 76 93

11 17 7 29 77 88 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Second nounct Setunday; B.R.K. 20 Leigh East 18; Charleston V. Saddleworth Postponed; Devisionay Moor 8 Outhon 27; Dudley Hell 14 Sidnaugh 42; Esstmoor 40 Lesds Univ 8; Egnemont 22; Hull Dockers 12; Ellenbortugh 28; Cuernsbury 22; Folly Lans 37, Askarn 14; Heydoork 11; Watenheed 0; Heworth 12 Cleyton 4; Hunslet Wernore 14 SKI JUMPING Dalise Detroit St Louis Phoenix Yoronio Chicago ENGELBERG, Switzerland: World Cup: 120m: Saturday: 1, A Widhostzi (Austria) (114.5m, 117.0) 217.2pts; 2, S Hongacher (Austria) (115.5, 112.5) 2004; 3, J Annen (Pn) (111.8, 111.6) 198.5; 4, N Kesal BOWLS -BASKETBALL - ATHLETICS THORMABY: Sags International masters bowls: Singless First round: Section A: H Duff bt G Nicholson 15-0; D Archer bt 8. Adderson 15-11; Duff bt Archer 15-5; Adderson 15-13; Nicholson 15-5; Duff bt Archer 15-15; Out qualities for quarter-finels). Section 8: E Devis bt N Shaw 15-11; KO Flordan bt J Vipond 15-7; Shaw bt Vipond 15-2; O'Flordan bt Devis 15-13; Shaw bt O'Flordan bt Devis 15-11; Frosdick bt Hammond 15-6; Gourley bt Frosdick 15-5; Bousfield bt Gourley bt Frosdick 15-5; Bousfield bt Hammond 15-6 (Bousfield publises). Section C: A Thornson bt Be Cleadon 15-9; Thornson bt Belloridge 15-7; Thornson bt Pice 15-4; Batchiridge bt Cleadon 15-9; Fires bt Cleadon 15-9; Thornson bt Fries 15-4; Batchiridge bt Cleadon 15-9; Fires bt Cleadon 15-9; Thornson bt Fire 15-4; Batchiridge bt Cleadon 15-9; Fires bt Cleadon 15-9; Thornson bt Fires 15-4; Cleadon 15-9; Thornson bt Fires 15-10; Harriy 15-8; Bylone bt Cleadon 15-9; Subbings 15-11; Bayarit bt Mosley 15-10; Harriy bt Subbings 15-11; Bayarit bt Mosley 15-10; Harriy bt Subbings 15-11; Bayarit bt Mosley 15-4; Frosdick bt J Bed 14-13; V Michelson bt O'Flordan 15-4; Frosdick bt J Bed 14-13; V Michelson bt O'Flordan 15-4; Frosdick bt Michelson 16-13; Bell bt Mitchelson 15-4; Frosdick bt Michelson 16-13; Subp bt Boundard 16-6; Thornson or T Frosdick 15-6; Thornson or T 2. T Braidre (Malitock) 19:00; 3, C Wolstenholmd (Shelibeld) 39:32.

DERBY: LARA Open repeat Miler Ment; 1, D Yates (Method) 39:32.

DERBY: LARA Open repeat Miler Ment; 1, D Yates (Method) 5:01; 3, J Chambers (North Derbyshies) 5:07; Women: T. Enskine (Method) 5:07. Momen: T. Enskine (Method) 5:07. Sebeel: 10lem: Ment; 1, M Price (Sunderland) 20:01; 3, G Negel (Getenhead) 30:32. Teams: 1, Sunderland 17; bit; 2, Morpeth 22; 3, Galteshead 24. Veterar: A Jentine (Morpeth) 32:48. Women: I, H Robinson (Chastar-le-Street) 36:37; 2, L Ment (Predale) 37:02; 3, D Todd (Jentow and Hebburn) 37:31. Teams: 1, Janow and Hebburn) 37:31. Teams: 1, Janow and Hebburn) 37:31. Teams: 1, Hardward Hebburn) 37:31. Teams: 1, Hardward Hebburn) 19:01; 2, S Spancow-Cussock (South London Henrian) 16:30; 3, M Raynor (West 4) 19:31.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE Viga Lampsight: 1, G Hebrerington (Duringman Chy) 19:35; 3, W Tam (Bridson) 27:51. Veterand 29:55; 3, W Tam (Bridson) 27:51. Veterand G Brown (Deringman) 20:49; 2, A Raw (Darington) 37:00; 3, V Johnson (Shidon) 34:59.

STEVENAGE: Santa Clause: Serie 1, A Colvin (Shaltesbury Bernel) 14:56; 3, N Miller (Verlag) 16:12. Veterand 18:59; 3, Enter 1 Kindy (Brailesbury Bernel) 18:28. Women: C Westherff (Shaltesbury Bernel) 18:28. Women: C Duringman 14:59. Sinder C Veterand 18:12. Veterand 18:59; 3, K Mertin (Dacorum and Tring) 19:48.

MESTON-SUPER-AWILE: Promenada 3 miller: R Jay (Swannea) 25:min 40:ecc. Townerd (Hampshire) 17:27; 3, C Campbell (Hertfordshire) 17:32. Tearns: 1, Hampshire) 25: 2. Deum 47; 3. Hertfordshire 48; Under-15 élore: 1; L Derner (Corset) 14:58; 2, L Dobriskey (Kerr) 15:07; 3. D Jeffery (Kerr) 15:12. Tearns: 1, Hampshire 70; 2. Essex 76; 3, Kert 80. Under-13 Ster. 1, C Moore (Dorset) 12:29; 2. S Brough (Hertfordshire) 12:24; 3, C Harvey (Kerr) 12:27; Tearns: 1, Dorset 55; 2, Hertfordshire) 12:24; 3, C Harvey (Kerr) 12:27; Tearns: 1, Dorset 55; 2, Hertfordshire) 12:24; 3, C Harvey (Kerr) 12:27; Tearns: 1, P Marin (Hillingdon) 25:nin 28:sec; 2, J Gentry (Newharm and Essex Baagles) 26:07; 3, S Sharp (Furna TWH) 26:12. Tearns: 1, Hillingdon 20:20; 2, Vefec 20:33; 3, North London 19:58. Vefec 20:33; 3, North London 19:58. Vefec 36:70. Women 3 miles: 1, T Tuchy (London High) 19:10; 2, R McKenzie (Serpentine) 19:41; 3, Y Budd (Hillingdon) 19:45; 2, Suppentine 193; 2, Hillingdon 197; 3, Woodford Green 147; Leading positions alto: here matches: 1, Hillingdon 19:5; 2, Suppentine 731; 3, Purna TVH 687; COU.9DON: Stubbs Copt 7,5 miles: 1, Hillingdon 19:5; 2, Suppentine 731; 3, Purna 194; 30; 11 London Harriers) 48:21. Veterant 6 Quatron (South London Harriers) 48:21. Veterant 7 Quatron (South London Harriers) 48:07. Road (London Harriers) 57:07. Tearns: 1, South London Harriers 476; 2, Ranelegh 807. BUNNASSER LEAGUE: Numbers England 89 Westiond Royals 85; Thames Vesley Tigers 107 Leopards 99; Manchester Glants 112 Crystal Phaloc 91; Leicaster Riders 112 Westford Royals 86; Worthing Beens 87 Birmingham Bullete 102. Treat and field
CFIYSTAL PAICE: Indoor Meaning: Man;
60m: J Thomas (Woodford Green) 8.8sec1/10n Jump: M Lloyd (Berley Borough)
2 10m. Pole vault: M Densiey (Ealing,
Southall and Michlesad) 4 40m. Long
Jump: M Boswell (Newham and Essex
Beagles) 7.88 Triple Jump: J Lures (Verlea)
13 52m Shoot: M Proctor (Newham and Essex
Beagles) 20.19m. (European Indoor
Championeries qualitying standard and
Stadum's record). Women: 60m: S Anderson (Shattesbury Bernet) 7 6sex: High
Jump! V Kelleway 1.52m. Pole
vesti: L Webber (Brighton and Howe)
3.30m. Long Jump: P HusbandsMacSaveen (South London Herners) 4.53m.
Shot: J Oeles (Croydon) 18.40m.
Cross gountity MacSween (South London Herriers) 4.83m.

Bhot: J Oelem (Croydon) 18.40m.

Cross country

BRUSSELS: IAAF World Cross Challenge: Maris 10.5 for 1, J Michaen (Ken)
33mn 07sect: 2, T Nyarld (Ken) 33:12: 3, P
Kespel (Ken) 33:12: 4, A Macsgebu (Erri
33:16: 5. C Jorgensen (Dan) 32:16; 5. K
Culen (GS) 33:19. Leeding positions: 1.

Mochen 25:05; 2, Nyarld 22: 3, Kogel 19: 4,
Mezepebu 17: 5, Jorgensen 19: 6, Culen
15: Women's Blott 1, G Warnt (Erri) 20:45:
2, P Radicitie (GB) 20:49; 3, K Dubecha (Eth)
21:04, 4, M Derbotta (Erri) 21:10; 5, G Urge
(Erri 27:16: 6, V Dejacyhere (Bd) 21:18.
Leading positions: 1, Wernt 25:bs; 2.
Radicitie 22: 3, Dulenta 19: 4, Derbotta 17:
5, Urge 16: 6, Dejacyhere 15.

WHARLEDON COMMON: Tremes Hare
and Hounds Inter Ott Boys Metch; 5
miles: 1, Leuisum (Dutwich College) 20min
48est: 2, J Piye (Dutwich College) 29:55: 3,
E Barnett (Winchester) 27:20 Tearnet: 1,
Dutwich College 11gbr; 2, Chufferhouse 41:
3, Winchester 49, Veterans tearn: 1,
Dutwich College 11gbr; 2, Chufferhouse 17:
3, Sherborne 20, Inter-club: 5 miles: 1, B
Thomas (Herne Hil) 28:20, Veterans: G Tuck
(Herne Hil) 29:20, Veterans: G Tuck
(Herne Hill 68: 3, Bank of England
181, Veterans: 4, Horcules Winnbledon
44pts: 2, Herre Hill 68: 3, Bank of England Derby Crystal Palece Watford Wathord

**Does not include first nights matches
CLASSIC COLA MEN'S TROPHY: Semifinal: Solent-76 Plymouth 88,
CLASSIC COLA WOMEN'S CUP: Semifinals: Laicaster 42 Thermat Justey 87;
Shreffield 88 Rhondold 47,
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Ment Pinet chelatone
Coverthy 83 Bridon 80; Mid Sussex 84;
Oxford 87; Richmond 94 Solfhul 86;
Sleverage 93 Carolif P 72, Women: First
chilsions notingham 50 Birmingham 58,
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Friday:
Washington 106 Charlotte 98; Indiana 69
Detroft 90; Lee Angeles Lebare 98 Atlenta
98; New York: 104 Cleveland 77; Milant 91
Philadelphia 84; Tononto 92 Milant 91
Philadelphia 84; Tononto 92 Protiand 96
Vencouver 91; Saturday: Chicago 100 New
Jersey 82; Washington 84 Toronto 92;
Indiana 96 Orlando 92; Milanti 69 Atlenta 92;
Detroft 115 Philadelphia 78; Los Angeles
Laicas 109 Charlotte 100; Mirmesotte 92 Los
Angeles Cilopers 91; Sacremento 98 Dollan
88; San Antonio 100 Houston 87; Phoreint
102 Detree 81; Mifrequiece 98 New York: 78;
Bestile 108 Golden Size 89,
Bassam Conference Does not include hat nights mat Road running BOLSCIVET: Cosille 10lon: Men: 1, S Newport (Blacknach) 30min 13eac; 2, A Tany (Bachill Road Runners) 30:50; 3, P Rowkand (Most) 31:24 Veterant: 5 Wilcing Women: 1, A Devise (Belangstoke) 36:28; CIS 9COTTISH INDOOR LEAGUE: Pre-enter chivator: Section A: Apr 71 Beinfield 70; East Lothien 75 Echnburgh 70; Micho-brian 72 Lanetschire 62; Auchtriseck 62 West Lothien 70; Blastyns 92 Turrdi 60; First richiain asset Batharitis 90 Turrdi 60; First richiain asset Batharitis 90 Turrdi 60; East File 93 Gertoch 65; Fraserburgh 89 Stirling 73; First division week: Alignder 71 Cumbommutel 82; Galacon 117 Nethodale 44. OB Golden State 59,
Enation Conference
Attentic division

17 8 .58
16 10 .51
k 15 11 .57
sey 13 11 .54
ton 13 14 .48
11 12 .47
this 6 18 .26
Control division CRICKET Pot .880 .615 98 1% G King b Powell
"G Love at Witton b Powell
"T Ensir not out
M Milobo b Gough
N Evens not out
Exists (b 1, lb 8, w 8) Tour match Adpair 2, Nemie Hill 68: 3, Bank of England 151. Veteran: 4,8 miles: 1, 1 Ernary (Windsor, Stough and Eton) 27min 17set; 2, M Nouch (Belgrave) 2753. 3, R Room (Noting) 2751. Women: 1, W Chaimers (Heme Hill) 2213; 2, L Steinner (Garden City Joggers) 33 10: 3, J Cuertral (South London Harmons) 33:32 (SLENARIFF FOREST: Race over the Glen: 7 miles: Men: 1, M Shelds (North Bollast) 39min 33sec (southe record); 2, D Fuhrer (Ballydram) 40.36 Women: 1, P Curin (Ballydram) 40.36 Women: 1, P Curin (Ballymon and Antirn) 46:31; 2, N McMoetin (CIYMS) 62:01: 3, H McMemman (BARF) 58:14 . 577 2% . 542 3% .481 5 .478 5 .280 10% New York New Jersey Washington Boston Philadelphia South Airiea Students home 65 Paletry 82. v England Under-19 PORT ELIZABETH (England Under-19 won total: South Africa Students best England Under-19 by three wickets Total (7 vide, 48 overs) SCHOOLS M Holmes and J Albamie did not bet. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-111, 3-111, 4-119, 5-121, 6-151, 7-177. .731 .880 .540 .525 .525 .480 .444 .118 1% 2% 3 ENGLAND UNDER-TH ENGLAYO UNDER-TN
G R Napier o Henderron b Evens 4
R W T Key not out 105
S D Peters o Jacobs b Enein 19
G P Swarm not out 17
N Planagan o Jacobs b Love 17
IN Planagan o Jacobs b Aberse 7
J C Powel b Love 4
P J Franks b Love 9
J T Tucker run out 2
R J Logan b Evans 10
N J Wilton o Motos b Holmes 1
T Total (48,4 evens) 194 SPORT . BOWLING: Logen 10-1-45-2; Franks 9-0-45-0; Tucker 3-0-23-0; Swann 10-0-39-1; Powell 10-0-24-3; Gough 6-0-23-1. **FOOTBALL** Pramier League Trophy Under-19 Chestrice 0 Merseyaide 1 South Yorkshise 3 North-Yorkshise 0 McAcogan (CITMS) 5231; 3, H McKearman (BAFF) 55:14

EXETER: English Inter-counties under-23 championship: (Other I, H Lobb (Bedfordshire) 3, 3 mm 52ac; 2, Andrew Gratin) 34 18, 3, M Gregory (Hampshire) 34 48; 4, K Stema (Devon) 35 50; 5, S Turvill (Hampshire) 35 15; 6, M Colman (Kerth) 35 25 Teams: 1, Hampshire) 350t; 2, Awon 44, 3, Kertt 49, 4, Surrey 58; 5, Oxfordshire 103; 6, Dorset 111 South of England Women's Inter-counties championships; Senior; 6, Siom; 1, J Mirchell (Sussed) 23 47; 3, Z Hydie (Surrey) 23 49; 4, C Herbert (Sussed) 24 00; 5 E Danilona (Surrey) 24 40; 5, L Sursey 68; 4, Denon (Dorsot) 24-12 Teamer; 1, Surrey 29; 2, Hampshires 59; 3, Sussex 63; 4, Denon 68; 5, Oxfordshire 112, 6, Kent 124, Junior; 4,8km; 1, T Povey (Doven) 17,08; 2, R BRISBANE: Tour match (bird day of four): South Africans 458-9 dec (W J Cronje 107 not out, G Kristen 79) and 114-3 (D J Culinan 50 not out); Australia A 330 (J L Langer 88, M J Steam 60, D 8 Lahmann 68; S M Postock 4-68) Western Conterence Midwest division Pot .836 .825 .800 .458 .348 .200 .083 GB ... 8 10 13 17 20 22 Houston Utah San Antonio Minnesota Vancouver Dallas Darwer Under-15-South Yorkshire 2 North Yorkshire 1 S M Pollock 4-93;
SHEPRELD SHISLD (trivid day of four);
Hobert: Victoria 180-8 dec and 348 (L. Harper 152, I Hervey 83; Tasmenia 130 (D. Seker 4-42) and 179-10 (D. Hills: 125 not out).
Adeletide: South Australia 366 (D. Webber 145, D. Fizgerald 57; S. Cook 4-98) and 54-9 (S. Robertson 3-7); New South Walles 519 (S. Lee 183 not out, R. Davison 137). Perfit: Western Australia 184 and 186 (S. Kajisin 93 not out, A. J. Bichel 4-52); Oueensland 341 (A. Syrtonide 88, G. Folley 82; J. Angel 4-85) and 33-2. Northern Merit League Wakefield 0 Leads 2 Total (48.4 overs) 194
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-67, 3-67, 4-107, 5-117, 6-124, 7-141, 6-145, 9-191 Inter-Association Brackord 4 Hull 2 BOWLING Holmes 7 4-0-41-1; Evens 7-1-14-2; Albanie 10-0-45-1; Ersiin 10-1-47-1; Milobo 4-0-19-0; Love 10-1-26-3. Seattle
LA Lebere
Phoenix
Postenti
Sacramento
Golden State
LA Clippere Huddersfield 0 Beny Blackburn 2 Busy 2 21 5 20 6 75 8 14 9 9 17 6 18 5 21 .769 .769 .862 .809 .346 .217 .192 21 20 15 WEST MOLANDS LEAGUE Werte D
Wolverhampton 9; Teltard 1 Stoke 1.
MIDLANDS DIVISIONAL CUP: Undei-14;
Second round: Kings Nartan and South
Birmingham 1 Welhall 8. SOUTH AFRICA STUDENTS Competitors press on to the finish of the Old Boys' match at Wimbledon Common, which was won by Liam Bolsum of Dulwich College. Photograph: Adrian Sherratt RUGBY UNION Owngons: Tries: Lieuwilya 2, Williams 2. | Tondu Con: Henris. Glasgow H 4 4 0 0 138 40 0 3 19
Kolso 4 3 0 1 102 36 0 2 14
Gasa 4 3 0 1 102 36 0 2 14
Karcsidy 4 2 0 2 79 72 0 1 9
Remandok 4 2 0 2 67 70 0 1 9
Peebles 4 1 1 2 62 50 0 2 8
Rigger 4 2 0 2 78 11 0 0 8
Dundes 3 1 0 2 49 81 0 2 8
Musselburgh 3 0 1 2 28 53 0 1 3
Presidon L 4 0 0 4 33 126 0 0
Third Glassion Cross Keye: Trice: Vernal 3, Burney 2, Waish 2, Bushel, Comsol, Powel, Watkin. Come: Bebb 8, Pontyclum: Trice: Juddewicz, Pugh, Yates Con: Goldsworthy. Raymond 3. Panes Raymond 3. Other: Triest Burke, Cadman. Come: Rutledge 2 Panes Rutledge 2 26 Pylo T Bern (Sale), D O'Leary (Harioquans), D Rees (Sale), J Wright (Richmond) 4: Lynegh, W Greenwood (Lecester), S Curnel (Richmond). International match Tondu: Tries: Fotane, Sadd, Strong, Con: Barry, Peres: Barry 3, Pyle: Tries: Davies, Grabhers. Barting Bridgester Camberley Clifton Havent North Walsham Tabard 89 Rednuth 27 Cheltenham 89 Met Police Newport \$8 Pwilhell 37 Ireland Lydney 19 Nottingham 25 Lydney: Tries: Durlop 2. Davis. Cons.: Monts 2. Nottingham: Tries: Bygrave, Bycom. Reyrolds. Const C. Atlanson 2. Plants C. Adamson 2. 19 Nottingham 25 Newport: Tries: Mechacek 2, Convor, Goodey, M Lientellyn, M Robinson, R Williams, penalty by, Const Lawson 6, Penas Lawson 2, Pelibalit Tries: Sterie, Thomas, Penas Frost 2. Rely: Tries: Dominguez, Pilet, Stoica, Const. Dominguez, 2 Penas, Dominguez, 6, Ireland; Try: O'Mahoriy, Con: Elecad, Penas Humphrays, 4, Elecad. Ebbw Vale 87 (Idwelly 14
Ebbw Vale: Tries: Woodwerd 3, Bisp,
Hayward, Llewellyn, Taumsloko, Taylor, G
Williams, Cons: Hayward 8 (Idwelly:
Tries: C Thomas, Williams, Cons:
Northcots, Well. PIFTH-ROUND DRAW: Builty Walls v Second division PETH-HOUND DRAW: Buth Walls v
Natherth; Porstyndd v Treorchy; Tonyretal
v Eblow Vale; Seven Staters v Crose Kaye;
Merthyr v Lienett; Cardiif Institute v
Mountain Ash; Yrysylow v Lieninester;
Newbridge v Cardiit; South Wales Police v
Newbridge v Tradegar;
Garridiishi v Rumney; Aberavon v
Maesting; Tondo v Swersset; Abertillery v
Aberavon Quina.

| Tise to be played January M, 1998 32 Mossiey Bestlord: Tries: Murdoch 2, Rayer 2, Forster Cord: Rayer 2 Pen: Rayer Moseley: Try: McAgaranay Core M Jones 2, Prepared Good M Jones 2, Droppint goal: M Jones Art 3,043, 9 Weston-e-Mars
86 Phymouth
P W D L F A
12 10 0 2 383 483
11 10 0 1 304 164
11 8 0 3 380 221
12 8 0 4 237 280
11 7 0 4 181 199
13 6 0 5 228 222
11 8 0 8 242 316
11 4 0 7 162 211
11 3 0 8 258 261
11 3 0 9 258 261
11 3 0 9 258 261
11 2 0 9 209 276 (in Bologra) Peris C Astrono 2.

Newbury Tries: Grecien, Kingdon, Philips, penalty iny. Const: N Grecien 2. Pens: N Grecien 2. Pens: N Grecien 2. Morley: Try: R Smith. Pen: Wiffingen.

Rosslyn Peris. 22 Harrogetis 30 Rosslyn Peris. Tries: Burns, Casado, Pennell. Const: Burns 2. Pens: Burns, Harrogetis: Tries: Ferrer. Feurer, Holder, Magne Const: James 2. Pens: James 2. Mortestale 9. Leeds 31 Tylorstown: 3 SW Police 32 Tylorstown: Perc Lloyd. South Wales Police Trise: J Price 2, Cox, Knight, A Thornes, Cons: J Price 2, Dropped goal: J Price. Camberlay Henley Barking Tabard Cifton Esher N Welsham Bridgwater Cheftenham Westers - M Havant Reduch Heineken Cup Gillach Gools & Seven Sistem & Gillach Gools Try: Donahue, Seven Sistem: Pena: Jones Z. Third division Ar. 3.043, Stackheeth 25 West Hartispool 32 Stackheeth: Triser Carlos, Rayson, Ratoway Cont. Brathwate 2 Perus. Brathwater 2 West Hartispool Try: Wood Con: Vola Perus. Vis 5 Easter 24 Fylds 15 Ayr 28 Gordonians 5 Ayr. Try: Paton. Con: M Blis. Pans: M Blis. 7. Gordonians: Try: Fraser Somi-fimile 20 Pau Tonyretal 34 Crossycatiog 21 Tonyretal: Tries: Nacholas, Richards, Taylor, Woodland, Cons: Richards 2 Crossycology: Tries: Parasteva, Rowlends, Smith. Cons: Deunitar 3. try: Uboqu Pens: Callard 5 Peu: Bernst-Salios Pens: Ausagne 3 Aiz Group F Countyriell 13 Neeth 32, Countyriell 13 Neeth 32, Countyriell: Tries: Harris, Lewis, Perc, Lowis, Neeth: Tries: Case 2, Bridges, Richard Jones, B Williams, Const. John 2, Perc John. Glasgow \$ 8 Stawert's Mel FP 21 Glasgow Southern: Try: McRwham. Pen: Cossey. Stewart's McMille FP. Tries: Capaldy 2. Con: Lindt. Pens: Lindt 3. Tennents Premiership Exeter 24 Fylde
Exeter Tries: Alvs. Cury Con: Fabsan
Pents: Fabsan 4 Fylder Tries: Molfatt. Scott.
Con: Gough. Pen: Gough. Alt: 1,200
Orrelt 23 Waterfoo 6 Herrogatic Triese Ferrer, Feurer, Holder, Magee Const James 2 Pens; James 2.

Wharfedale 9 Leeds 31
Whorfedale 9 Leeds 31
Whorfedaler, Pens; Moursey 3 Leeds: Triese Touroidra 2. Clayton, Mathaus, Conc. Turpulotu. Pens; Turpulotu 3
Worcaster 30 Rupby 16
Worcaster: Triese Carric, Le Bes, Lloyd. Pens; Smith 5 Rupby; Tryr. Miner. Conc. Dament. Pens; Tryr. Miner. Conc. Dament. Pens; Smith 5 Rupby; Tryr. Miner. Conc. Dament. Smith 5 Rupby; Tryr. Miner. Conc. Dament. Smith 5 Rupby; Tryr. Miner. Conc. Dament. Smith 7 1 458 271 29
Worcaster 13 17 0 2 442 163 32
Leeds 12 9 1 2 301 206 19
Rupby 12 9 0 3 357 222 18
Newkury 12 7 0 5 330 366 12
Rosslyn Perk. 12 5 1 6 193 275 11
Lverpool St H 12 5 1 6 193 275 11
Lverpool St H 12 5 1 6 193 275 11
Lverpool St H 12 5 1 6 193 275 11
Notingham 12 5 0 7 219 287 10
Wharledale 12 4 0 8 208 325 8
Harrogate 12 3 0 9 222 253 6
Lydray 12 1 0 11 139 238 2
Morley 13 1 0 12 151 508 2
LEADBING SCORERS; 167: S Tuppolou. (Leeds; 7 Irlan. 21 conversions, 30 cenatry goets), 1492 C Reymond (London Weist); Tuppolotu.

Second civision north Yestanday Toulouse First division Hishward/J 14 Aberdeen GSFP 18
Hishward/Jordennitz Try: MacCaitum,
Penes: D Mark 2, Jamieson, Aberdeen
GSFP: Penes: Oddy 2,
Stewartry 7 Selicit
Stewartry Try: Comments 222 Boroughmuir 5 West of Scotland 23 Boroughmuir: Try: S Scown, West of Scotland: Tries: Chambertain 2, G Bulloch, Con: Chambertain, Pener Chambertain 2. Toulouse: Try: Bondour Con: Delegue Pens: Delagun 3, Devlaud 2 Brive: Triest 5 Const. Magno Pens: Lameson 4 Later edra brine. Brive with on brief Group C Plymouth 11 2 0 9 209 278 4
Met Police 11 1 0 10 156 304 2
LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Askesna 17 Southerd 15.
Bearingstoke 25 Suston and Epsom 25.
Cheriton Park 5 Russip 20; Guildiord and Godelman 10 Nonesch 44; Herlow 19
Wintbledon 17. Old Colleans, 27 Sudbury 17. Old Met-Whigstlems 6 Sustains 32.
Themet Wenderset 20 Cheshurt 27.
SOUTH WEST: First division: Samssaple 31 Stoud 11; Benry Hill 36 St Ives 10; High Wycombe 8 Medicenhead 36; Launceston 22 Goussiar Old Boys 10; Medicen 28; Penzance-Newlyn 25 Tonguey 10
MEDIANDS: First division: Barkers Butts 31 Legiston Buzzerd 22; Belgrave 15 Hereford 9; Broadstreet 23 Benbury 11; Butten 30 Derby 8; Syston 21 Stoke-on-Trent 15; Westleigh 20 Kentikvorth 18, Whitehunch 39 Sumforope 23; Wolkenhampton 33 Manesfield 12.
NORITH: First division: Bridlington 10 Macclassield 28, Dovessier 25 New Brighton 6; Hull fortents 37 Tymodele 33, Middlestrouph 29 Wighon 14; Wiches 30 Broughton Park 24; West Park (Branthope) 16 Stockhon 24. Beddau 14 Cardiff Inst as Beddau 14 Cardiff Inst as Beddau Tries: Levis, Lloyd, Cons: Hanta 2. Cardiff Institute: Tries: Budget, Cooper, A Davies, Wall, J Williams. Cons: Vote, J Williams. Per: J Williams. Dropped goal: Massing Quins 12 Liendowery Ocreti 23 Waterloo 6 Ocreti: Tries: Richardson, Wright Cons. Nachuel Scott 2 Pena: Michael Scott 3 Waterloo: Pena: Griffiths 2 GEFF: Perex Octoy 5.

Shewarthy 7 Selicink
Sewearthy Try: Craig. Cor: Campbell.
Selicink Try: Malms. Cort Slee: Perex Sleir
4 Dropped goet Anderson.
POSTPONED: Grengemouth v Glenvoltes
PW D L F A 7 8: Ps.
Selicink 4 4 0 0 79 33 0 1 17
Ayr 42 1 1 82 53 0 2 12
Gendorisers 4 3 0 1 51 57 0 0 12
Gengemen 2 2 0 0 57 39 0 1 39
Gengemen 2 1 0 1 37 31 0 1 5
Selectif Sleir Massing Cains: Tries: Petty, Phaips. Corc. Wishne, Liacdovay: Tries: E Lawis 3, P. Jones 2, E Evens, Hughes, Rowlands, G. Thomas, Corne: Simpson 5. Jed-Forest 15 Metrose 28 European Conference Jed-Forest: Tries: Dungels, Molircy, Cour. C. Richards. Perr. C. Richards. Melmost: Tries: Brothestone, Braughton, Delgleist, C. Recharh. Con: Shephard. Pens: Shephard 2. Rotherhem: 48 Coverity 8
Rotherhem: Tries: Harper 2, Austin, Dut-loy. Easterby, Schmd. Cons. Birms 5
Pens: Birns 2. Coventry: Try: Killord. Pens: Harms. 18 Tradeger Same lines Moniston: Try: Morgan: Con: Roden, Pens: Roden 3. Tredegar: Try: Davies, Pens: Chepman 3, Young. Glynnesith 11 Marthyr 12 Newcastle Glynneeth: Try: Roberts. Pena: Hassett 2. Merthyr: Tries: Lloyd 2, Bedation, Bryant, Davies, Hooper, Thomas. Cons. D Event 4. Pens: Barris 2. Covernry: Try: Ruscia. Pers: Harms.

Walkefield: Pens: G Mäler 5. London Scottleh: 10
Walkefield: Pens: G Mäler 5. London Scottleh: Try: Johnstone. Corr. McAustand.
Pens: Lee. Att: 600
Bedford: 11: 11: 0 0 367 170 22
L Soothsh: 12: 8 0 4 300 228: 16
Orret: 11: 7 0 4 257 177 14
Walkefield: 12: 7 0 5 290 255: 14
Withstigpool: 12: 7 0 5 290 255: 14
Withstigpool: 12: 7 0 5 290 224: 14
Covernity: 12: 7 0 5 227 333: 14
Misselley: 11: 6 0 5 214 215: 12
Rottlerham: 12: 5 0 6 263 214: 10
Resident 12: 2 0 9 195 292: 6
Walkefield: 12: 2 0 9 195 292: 6
Walkefield: 12: 2 0 10 203 290: 4
Fyde: 11: 1 0 10 146 321: 2
LEADING: SCORERS: 170: M Reper (Bedford, 5 free; 26 conversions, 37 pensing goals): 141; L Getfield: (Walkefool): 127: 5 Viec (West Harfispool): 3: 17c. 290; 230; 171; J Febon (Bruster: 2): 10c. 270; 96: 0 Lee (London Scottleh: 3: 12c. 170; 250; 173; J Febon (Bruster: 2): 10c. 270; 16ex: 11: J Carker (Blackheatin): 9: C Sharman (London Scottleh: 8: Walkefool): D O'Maltony (Masseloy), A Margioch (Bedford): W Montos (Walkefool): D O'Maltony (Masseloy), A Margioch (Bedford): W Montos (Walkefool): Buthings (Masseloy), A Margioch (Bedford): Buthings (Bedford Stirling-County 7 Watsocians 29
Stirling-County Try: Brough: Corr. M.
McKerzos. Watsocrians: Tries: F Henderson, Kerr. Perny. Corr. Duncan Hodge.
Pers: Duncan Hodge 4.
POSTPONED: Curde v Edinburgh
Acadeoricals: Heriot's FP v Hewick.
PW D L F A T B Pts.
Matrose 4 4 0 0 100 40 -0 2 18
Watsocrians 4 3 0 1 137 48 0 2 14
String Co 4 3 0 1 82 52 0 1 13
W of Scot 8 2 0 1 80 22 0 2 10
Jed-Forest 4 2 0 2 72 109 0 1 9
Hawick. 3 1 0 2 44 59 0 0 4
Boroughmust 3 1 0 2 25 50 0 0 4
Edinburgh 3 0 0 3 25 75 0 1 1
Heriot's FP 2 0 0 2 27 68 0 0 0
Curre 2 0 0 2 14 84 0 0 0 Stirling-County 7 Watsonians Pettygraig 29 Blains Penygreig: Tries: Penelly, Rows Cont: Duzne, Roberts: Penelly, Rows Cont: Duzne, Roberts: Bistrat: Tries: Williams 2, Howels, Matthewan. Con: Spence. Llanelli 21 Dunvent 18 Llanelli Tries: Hodges 2, McSryde Cons; Botica, 3. Dunvent: Try: Daniel. Con: Daniel, Pens: Deniel 3. 19 Stade Français 13 Columbers: Tries: De Glusti, Sieurac Pene: Labit 3 Stade Français: Try: Lorribad Core Reight. Pene: Reight 2 Att: 4,500 Mountain Ash 22 Neath Athletic 12. Mountain Ash: Tries: Farts. Jones, Philips. Cores: Pritcherd 2: Dropped gost: Jones. Neath Athletic: Tries: Buckley, Langford. Core: Wyett. Group G Allied Dunbar Premiership Aberaron 26 Bedwas 10 Aberaron: Tries: L Griffins 3, C Lewis, Cons: Bell 3. Bedwas: Tries: Philips, Wright First division Leicester 27 Heriequins 3 Leicester, Tries: Back, Greatwood, penalty by Cores: Serew 2, Horak, Pene: Hotek, Serew Hartequins: Pan: Lecrott. At:: 11.605 Blackwood 11 Maesteg 29 Blackwood: Try: Lay. Pens: Lay 2. Meesteg: Tries: A Davies, Pay, Hambrow, G Jones. Cons: A Davies 3, Pen: A Davies. Group D Cordit 82 Abercam 14
Carditi, Tries: Humphreys 2, Ringer 2, J
Thomas 2, Hell, J Hawlett, E Laure, Morgan,
Ross, G Thomas, Waller, Williams, Corne,
J Thomas 3, Half 2, Ross, Abercam, Try,
Sege. Pens. Cheshire 3. Gamdillaith 24 Bridgend Yesterday Richmond THE SEE TIMES 21 Plickmond: Tries: Chapman, S. Quimel, Whyte Perst: Pint 2 Northempton; Penst: Grayson 7 Dropped goel: Grayson, Ast: 3,000 21 Northempton 24 Swalec Cup Constitution Tries: Cross, Evens, Jenkins. Const Clarke 2, James. Perc. James. Bridgend: Tries: Greensway 2. Kennedy. Const Bower 3. Second division . SERVICE N Gala 27 Preston Lodge 8
Gala: Tries: Changlong 2, Battertyne,
Parker. Cone: Parker 2, Park Pasker.
Preston Lodge: Try: Brothestone. Pen:
Kirtone. Fourth round Carmether C 13 Limitation Group A Group A

Kentig Hill: Try: Waish: Pen: Hopions,
Treoraby: Trive: Egger 2. 8 Morgan 2.
Ciceto, D Lloyd, Powell, Roberts, West.
Cane: D Lloyd, Pen: D Lloyd. Carmarhen Ouing: Try: A Thomas, Corp. Howels, Pens: Howels 2, Lischerun; Tries: | Devies, S. Langdon, Prichard, Cons; Roper 3, Pens Roper. Second division north Ystracigynleis · 31 Rumney-RACING Aspeiria 25 Stourhridge
Birminghem/5 16 Sandal
Kendel 25 Numerten
16 Sandal
16 Sandal
16 Sandal
17 Hindled
17 Hindled
18 Witnington P
24 Sheffield
19 W L - F
25 Stourhridge
16 Sandal
17 Hindled
28 Witnington P
28 Sheffield Ystracigyntale: Tries: Love 2, J Morgan, A. Wilharns, N. Williams, Coos: Love 3, Rummey: Tries: Cary, Greeky, K.Lee, J.Lee, Wills. Cons: Mason 2, Pen: Mason. 25 stouthridge 14
18 Sandai 12
28 Numeron 6
64 Uchffeld 13
15 Hindsley 8
38 Winnington Perk 28
24 Sheffeld 16
P W D L F A Pa
11 10 0 1 351 149 20
11 7 1 3 246 140 15
1 6 1 4 232 243 13
1 6 0 5 197 233 12
1 6 0 5 197 233 12
1 5 1 5 240 266 13
1 5 0 6 256 239 10
1 5 1 6 258 239 10
1 5 1 6 258 239 10
1 5 0 6 285 239 10
1 5 0 6 285 239 10
1 5 0 6 285 239 10
1 5 0 6 285 239 10
1 5 0 8 193 297 6
2 1 8 156 273 5
2 0 9 206 317 4 Glasgow Hands 43 Blggar Newbridge 50 Aberonsabol Glasgow Handst Triac Stark 2, Common, Handst Mattack, Const Hayes 3, MacGargor 2, Pert MacGregor Bigger Tries: Browning, Floring Corr. Lawry, Pent Lawry. Kalso 12 Micromock 23 Call 0891 500 123 Newbridge: Tries: P Jones 2, Panyman 2, Budgeon, Cooper, Fellows, Sadier Const. J Williams 5. Narberth. . 30 Wreshern Group H Narberth: Tries: Bowen, W Jones, R Jones, Mchrosh Cons: Eddy 2. Pens: Eddy 2. Wreshert: Tryt. Jones. Cott: Lloyd. Pens: Lloyd 3. Abertavon Quins 30 Falicifoal Hemoire Birminghem Manchester Kandal Sadgley Park Sandal Nameston Visiteal Shuttleid Shuttleid Shuttleid Shuttleid Lichtleid Winnington P Aberevon Colon: Tries: Sucor 2, Thomas 2, Conor Device 2, Pens: Deves 2, Petintoet; Tries: Mayze, pensity try, Cone: KThomas 2, Pen; KThomas, Call 0891 100 123 Ynysybed Ynywybwit Tries: J Lloyd, S Lloyd, Reed. Troherbert: Tries: Colline, Thomas. Pen: Wanter. Kalso 13 Milmarnock 23 Keleo: Try: G Labg. Core: Hogarni: Pene: Hogarth 2. Milmarnock: Tries: Pattle, K Species, Stewert. Corp. Stewart. Pene: Samuri 2. Jewson National League Pontypridd 43 Bonymaen 3. Pontypridd: Tries: Morgen 3. Jankna, Gerant Lews, Wysh. Const. Jenkna 5. Pint. Jenkns: Bonymaen: Perr. 8 Dawes. FOOTBALL Bristol 7 1 0 6 92 222 2
LEADING SCORERS: 115: M Lymagh
(Soracens; 4 hins; 13 convensions, 23
persity goals) 97: S Howarth (Sale, 1, 22c,
150g, 1 droppind goal) 70: M Maplaton
(Gloucester: 2, 12c, 110g, 14g) 67: J
Skravsky (Lexisses: 1, 7c, 15pg) 62: Y Lacopo
(Harrisquers: 1, 8c, 11pg, 20g) 55: P Burko
(Bharot, 6c, 13pg, 20g) 55: P Grayson
(Northempton: 2, 6c, 10pg, 1dg) Tries; 5: Liverpool St H 42 Reading Pontypool 18 Abertillery 28 Therpool St Helenat Takes Currenings 2, Setton 2, Cooper, Nelson, Wood. Const Salabury 2: Pers Salabury Reading: Try. penalty my Core Dance. Penas: Dance 2, Benati. Abertoynon 7 Camphilly 44
Abertoynon: Try: C Lewis Core Howells,
Camphilly: Tries: Duly 2, Shepherd 2, A
Evens, Jones, Weineright, Const T Price 3,
Perc T Price. Group E Portypool: Tries: M Cawley, James, Lynch, Per: Silvs, Abertillery: Tries: N Meredith, Miles, Pens: Reet 6. Posbles 21 Rinkcaldy

Owngos

22 Porthawl

0 Builth Wells 18

Builty Weller Tries: Hammond, Newmen. Con: Hopkins. Pens: Hopkins 2.

Tricksaran

Group B

London Wetsh 40 Ottey

the state of the s

London Welste Tries: Daves, Hayman, Roeland Philips, Reynolds, Ruffell Cons:

20

You do not have to be wealthy or a royal to take up carriage driving. Victoria Walker tries her hand



'I could feel the G-force distorting my face'

long seemed the preserve of the aristocratic elite. A century ogo it was the preferred means of transport for wealthy landowners, and often the closest Tenant farmers came to it was When they stood beside their masters' carriages on Boxing
Day to accept Christmas gifts from the more generous.

Even today carriage driving is a sport that attracts many followers from the landed classes and the Royal Family. The Duke of Edinburgh is a keen driver, aithough he took it up only when he was in his fitties. He has won several medals, including three bronzes and a team gold for Britain in the 1980 world championships.

Carriage driving can be an expensive sport, but it doesn't have to be. A good pony can be bought for as little as £1,500, though a good horse can cost 15.000, and a champion ten times more. A general exercise vehicle can be bought for £250

dunini

these figures can shoot sharply into the thousands if you want to invest in an antique showing vehicle.

An ideal way to give the family pony a fresh lease of life is to have it schooled in a carriage harness. With driving lessons it is possible to enjoy the sport without making too much financial commitment or initial outlay.

Many stables, such as David Wray's Northern Riding and Carriage Driving entre, offer driving lessons that are tailored to the needs of students, whether they just want to enjoy the occasional drive or spend a week on intensive training.

The British Driving Society has a list of qualified instructors and can provide practical advice for anyone who wishes to take lessons or invest in a horse and carriage. It also has information on social and Sporting activities, such as



carriage driving holidays. The day-to-day care of horses is a drain on time and financial resources. "It is a 24-hour job." Wray, a carriage driver and horse breeder. says. "You can't just shut the stable door and forget about

them." His advice to anyone interested in taking up the sport is: "Don't rush into it. Look around and get some sound advice." I decided to sample the sport with a driving lesson in his carriage with his pony. Clutch,

brake, accelerator - the mechanics of speeding up and skiwing down on most veni-

BY RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Nigel Short and Michael Ad-

ams have both advanced to the

quarter-finals of the Fide

Groningen. December 1997 Ruy Lopez

Bu7 b5 d6 0-0 Re8 Bb7 Bb Nb8 Nb6 C6 Bx6 Oc7 Cb7 d5 dxe4 Nd6 Ru6 Fi5 Ni4

Bus-1 Bud5

NI3 Bb5 Ba4 0-0 Re1 Bb3

8 c3 9 h3

12 d5 13 N/1

14 N3h2 15 dxc6

25 Pxd7 26 Pxb7 27 Pxd7

Christmas cheer

For those of you who missed

squeeze normally gets the message across. Perched pre-cariously on a two-seat gig. there is nothing between you and the engine (one horsepower, that is), but your voice.

The reins can be used to apply pressure to either side of the animal's mouth, which will turn its head and thus the required direction. But for starting and stopping, verbal commands are the only real source of power.

Unfortunately, Paddy, the horse connected to my carriage, understood only "York-shire". Employing the sound shire. Employing the round vowels of my Southern up summer camps for young cles is pretty straightforward. bringing, we remained stadrivers, picnic drives and even Even astride a horse, a leg tionary for my first attempts of

this year. White to play, this

position is from the game

Short — Biyasis, Hastings

1980. What is White's winning

move? Answers on a postcard

please to: Christmas Winning

Moves, The Times, I Penn-

ington Street, London El 9XN.

EENE on CHESS

"Walk on, Paddy". It was only when I attempted to parrot the soft voice of my instructor (a Yorkshireman) that Paddy took off.

The transformation from

truly alarming. The carriage lurched so sharply that I felt that my face should have been distorted by the G-force. Luckily Wray continued to hold on to a second set of reins (much like a car driving instructor with dual controls). My fear soon gave way to exhibit attion. The knowledge that I was guiding our carriage around the paddock, following Wray's directions and moving it towards the letters painted at strategic points on the rails as he called them out ("left towards B and then straight over to to D") was deeply satisfying. Paddy picked his feet up with jaunty poise and I felt like an extra in a television

costume drama. Carriage drivers hold both reins in one hand and the whip in the other. To turn, you simply shorten the left or right rein, depending on the direction in which you want to go. This is, in reality, far from

simple and I found myself wishing I had extra hands. Sit up straight. coached, conscious that in Private Driving competitions, image is everything. Whether

at Wembley or the Burghley Horse Trials in Lincolnshire. or any of the nation's county shows, the competitors in the Private Driving classes are easy to spot. Highly polished brass gleams in even the dullest weather. Not a speck of dust, let alone divots of mud. will be found anywhere on the carriages, most of which are The horses are

groomed to perfection and

their drivers and passengers

are equally well turned out with matching suits and travelling rugs.

A second category. Compention Driving, is far more gruelling and (aside from dressage) a less ballenc endeavour. Comparable to threeday eventing, it includes three disciplines, one of which is completed each day.

The first is dressage, which is a strict test of the driver's skill and the horse's grace. It contrasts dramatically with the cross-country section. where competitors race against the clock over a marathon obstacle course. Referee are seated on board each carriage as officials but they often find themselves acting as ballast, leaning out around bends to maintain balance. much like a yachısman. The third test is cone driving. A half is halanced atop each cone and points are deducted for any balls dislodged (just like the penalties for dislodging

There is a lot to learn and even harnessing a single horse to a small gig can seem tremendously complicated - i shudder at the thought of

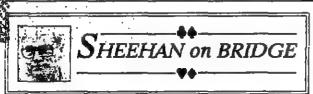
fences in showjumping).

harnessing four. Wray guided me through the process twice. explaining the names and uses of such equipment as a crupper, marringale and traces. checked after being fitted to ensure that it was not too tight or too loose. But even then it seemed a complicated blur of leather and I doubt I could manage to harness a horse unaided. It would, of course, take practice, and where better to learn than at a driving school?

FACT FILE

□ Northern Riding and Carriage Driving Centre. Lune. Thornhill Road, Dewsbury, West Yorks WF12 9PY (01924 466240). D British Driving Society. 27 Dugard Place. Barford, Warwickshire

CV35 SDX (01926 b24420). ☐ The British Horse Centra Stoneleigh. Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LR (01303 690697).



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Paul Soloway and Bobby Goldman, the former Dallas "Aces". play monthly challenge matches on OKBridge, the world's argest on-line bridge club, which at present boasts more than 10.000 subscribers spread over 60 countries. In this hand from their first match, against Mike Passell and Michael Seamon. . Soloway (East) judged remarkably well, holding all five outstanding trumps, not to double Four Spades, the more so considering the opponents' tentative sequence to game.

North-South game . IMPs

Goldm	Bri	Seam	on Solo	runtry	Passil 2 S	
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Two Hearts was a weak two. for quite classical. Some ag-gressive players are willing to make these bids on five-card suits at favourable vulnerabil-

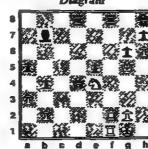
ity in order to mix it up. Declarer played the nine of clubs from durumy at trick one, and won East's queen with the ace. With no reason to suspect the 5-0 trump break. he continued with a spade to the ace, and the contract could no longer be made — one off.

There was a winning line at trick two, one which declarer might well have found had he been tipped off by an indis-

creet double. South plays a diamond to the ace, ruffs a diamond, crosses to the jack of clubs and ruffs a second diamond. Next comes the aceking and a third heart, ruffed with the ace of trumps. Finally, he ruffs a third diamond and exits with a club or a heart. He has nine tricks in the bag, and the Q iO of spades remaining for his tenth. □ Robert Sheehan writes on

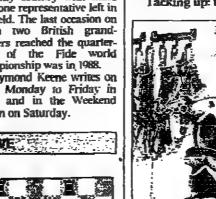
bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

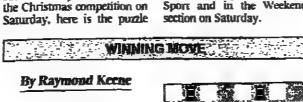




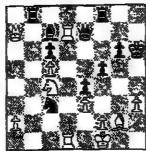
Late news

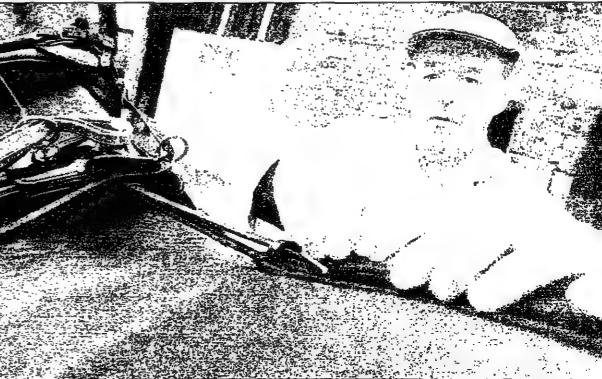
In the quarter-final at Groningen Short won his first game against Krasenkov, Michael Adams drew with Van Wely, Anand beat Shirov and Gelfand drew with Dreev. In the struggle to play Anatoly Karpov in the final, the UK is the only country with more than one representative left in the field. The last occasion on which two British grandmasters reached the quarterfinal of the Fide world championship was in 1988. ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend





Black to play. This position is from the game Maric -Arakhamia, Hastings 1995. The invasion of the white rook on the seventh rank looks like bad news for Black. How did he prove that this is not the









Horse sense: bridles in the tackroom, left: carriage drivers hold both reins in the left hand and the whip in the other

WORD-WATCHING By Philip Howard

YEDDO i. Tokyo -- h- A-board game

 Sun-dried fish SOAY

a. A sheep CA Buddhist prayer wheel TAZETTA

a. A mullah's prayer cap b. A fragrant narcissus c. A marzipan croissant SILBO

a. A whistling language b. Silver/borax compound c. A Finnish sled

Answers on page 46

Civil proceedings can uphold criminal law

Attorney-General v Blake Before Lord Woolf. Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Mummery

[Judgment December 16] The Attorney-General was entitled in exceptional cases to institute civil proceedings in aid of the criminal law, to uphold the public policy of ensuring that a criminal did not retain profit derived directly from the commission of his

In an appropriate case the court would grant relief in the public interest to ensure that the criminal law was not flouted and thereby brought into disrepute.

The Court of Appeal so held. allowing the Attorney-General's appeal, on different grounds, against the dismissal by Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor (The Times April 23, 1996) of an action against George Blake to prevent him, as a former member of the Secret Intelligence Services from profiting from the publication of his autobiography No Other Choice, which described his espionage for the Soviet Union and al information obtained

while an SIS officer. The court granted an injunction estraining Mr Blake from receiving any further payment resulting from the book.

In 1944 Mr Blake became a member of the SIS. From 1951 until his arrest in 1900 he spied for the Soviet Union. In 1961 he pleaded guilty to spying and was sentenced to 42 years imprisonment, but escaped in 1966. He now lived in

In his autobiography, published by Jonathan Cape Ltd in 1990, he described his activities as a KGB spy, his trial, imprisonment and escape. Mr Blake did not seek ion or submit the manuscript for prior approval before publication, of which the government had no advance notice.

The Attorney-General brought an action against Mr Blake claiming damages for breach of fiduciary duty and payment of ail moneys received or to be received. At that time Mr Blake had been paid about £60,000.

The Vice-Chancellor dismissed the action rejecting the claim based on fiduciary duty as too wide. He accepted that a former member of SIS owed a life-long duty to the Crown not to disclose confidential Information acquired in the course of his duty, but did not owe a continuing duty not to use his position as a former servant of the Crown to generate a profit for himself. The duty owed did not extend to information no longer secret or confidential. Therefore, claimed. Mr Blake was not in breach of any duty owed to the The Attorney-General

Private law: Mr Philip Havers. QC. Miss Mary Vitoria. QC and Mr Stephen Richards for the Attorney-General; Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC and Mr Pushpinder Saini as amici curiae.

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reference

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results

Thoroton, QC, Solicitor-General, Miss Mary Vitoria, QC and Mr Aidan Robertson for the Anorney-General: Mr Pushpinder Saini as amicus curiae.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the Vice-Chancellor had only dealt with the position in private law. Their Lordships had requested argument on the position in public law. The Attorney-General subsequently sought leave to amend the statement of claim to rely on

Private law

Breach of fiduciary duty Their Lordships came to a similar conclusion to the Vice-Chancelior on the private law claim. The Attorney's submissions that the duty arising out of Mr Blake's fiduciary relationship with the Crown continued after his service with the Crown terminated and after the information ceased to

The court did not recognise the concept of a fiduciary obligation which continued notwithstanding the determination of the particular relationship which gave rise to it.

Equity did not demand a duty of undivided loyalty from a former employee to his former employer, nor impose a duty to maintain the confidentiality of information which had ceased to be Breach of contract

By submitting the manuscript for publication, without having first obtained clearance, Mr Blake committed a clear breach of the express undertaking which he signed when he joined the public

That was a breach of contract which prima facie entitled the Crown to an injunction and damages. The obligation was not an uniawful restraint of trade, since was rendered unlawful by section

I(i) of the Official Secrets Act 1989. former member of the SIS to disclose official Information without jawful authority whether or not the information was secret or disclosure would be damaging to

The Crown had not sought an injunction to prevent publication and now could not establish loss. It was not, therefore, entitled to other The court invited submissions

on whether the Crown might have a private law claim to restitutionary damages for breach not to advance such a claim before the Court of Appeal. Since there would be no appeal, the court expressed its view, which was piter and without the benefit of

The general rule was that damages for breach of contract were compensatory not restitutionary. restitutionary claim for profits

From Poll position

to Chequers flag

made from a breach of contract in appropriate circumstances. The difficult question was in what circumstances they should be

The basis on which damages were awarded should not depend on the defendant's moral culpabiliry. Breach of contract enabling a defendant to enter into a more profitable contract, and by entering into a later contract outting out of his power to perform his contract with the plaintiff were insufficient to justify an award.

There were at least two situations where justice required the award of restitutionary damages where compensatory damages would be inadequate: skimped ance and where a defen dant had obtained his profit by doing the very thing he had contracted not to do. That covered the present case exactly. Mr Blake had promised not to disclose for profit.

In Snepp v United States ((1980) 100 S Ct 763) a majority of the United States Supreme Court awarded restitutionary damages for breach of contract in circumstances closely resembling the

They invoked a constructive trust impressed on the proceeds of publication without prior clearnce. Their Lordships would prefer to award restitutionary damages directly for breach of contract rather than distort the equitable concepts of flduciary duty or constructive trust to accom

In the absence of a claim for substantial damages for breach of contract, however, the private law claim was dismissed. Public law

The Attorney's role The Attorney sought relief in his historic role as guardian of the public interest, in Gouriet v Union of Post Office Workers [[1978] AC 435) all members of the House of was entitled to invoke the aid of the civil courts in support of the had power to grant injunctive relief in an appropriate case.

It was obviously desirable, where practicable, for proceedings relation to criminal offences to be confined to the criminal courts. which the criminal courts were powerless to act. In such circumstances the inher-

ent power of the Attorney was extremely valuable and should not be artificially confined: see Attorney-General v Bastow (1957) 1 QB The nower was not based on any narrow concept of a statute providing an inadequate remedy or the criminal courts not being able to

it at least extended to preventing the criminal law being flouted and in consequence being brought into disrepute. It was to prevent that happening that the Attorney advanced his claim in public law.

TIMES.

THE AUTHORITATIVE REFERENCE

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TO ORDER

T

In public law the two significant

features of the case were: first that Mr Blake was guilty of a serious inal offence, a breach of the Official Secrets Act. for which he would never be tried and punished, but from which he had derived, and in the absence of a court order might continue to derive financial benefits; and second, that the plaintiff was the Attorney who occupied a unique position of responsibility in public

The jurisdiction of the courts, on an application made by the Attor-ney, was not limited to granting an nction restraining the commission or repeated commission of a criminal offence.

If, as here, a criminal offence had already been committed, the jurisdiction extended to enforcing public policy with respect to the ences of the commission of

An order restraining Mr Blake from receiving further benefits was not retrospective or disproportionate: it only had prospective effect. It was a lesser penalty than a confiscation order under the

It supported the criminal law in an area relating to the interests of national security and it did not interfere with freedom of Profits of exime: Public policy

This was an exceptional case in which the Attorney was entitled to intervene by instituting civil proceedings, in aid of the criminal law, to uphold the public policy of ensuring that a criminal did not retain profit directly derived from

Justice Act 1988, as amended by the Proceeds of Crime Act 1995, For Mr Blake to receive the balance of the royalties, about £90,000, would amount to the law being flouted. Safeguards against abuse The occasions on which the

That nolicy had been recognise

Attorney sought to intervene to uphold the criminal law were extremely rare. The Attorney, because of his central role in the enforcement of the criminal law. was in a particularly appropriat position to judge when to apply to the court for a remedy.

The court would carefully scrutinise the application to ensure that it was in the interests of justice that it should be granted,

The remedy should be fashione to achieve the public law policy of aiming to prevent the offender from profiting as a result of, or in connection with his crime.

The money the subject of the injunction would be hable to confiscation, so the injunctio served the ordinary purpose of preserving assets subject to a claim pending adjudication. The fact that Mr Blake would

never return to the iurisdiction of the court was an argument for granting the injunction, not an objection to it. Notice of the injunction restraining Mr Blake from receiving or authorising anyone to receive on his behalf payment or other benefit resulting from the exploitation of No Other Choice should be given to Jonathan Cape Ltd.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor: Treasury Solicitor.

No inference over maintenance

Adami v Lincoln Grange Management Ltd Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss.

Lord Justice Hunchison and Sir [Judgment December 17]

In the context of a 260-year lease at a nominal ground rent which contained detailed provisions governing the repair of individual properties, the levying of a service charge to meet the costs of mainteeffected and maintained at the expense of lessees to cover damage for any catastrophe affecting the block as a whole so far as reasonably foreseeable it was impossible to infer an intention that the cost of maintaining the structure of each block should fall

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the lessee David Adami, from a decision of Judge Martineau at Central London County Court, that the lessor, Lincoln Garage Manage-

ment Ltd, was not liable under the terms of the lease to maintain the structure of the block in a proper

for the respondent

that the contention that it was an implied term of the lease that the lessor would be liable to make good any damage to the structure of the block whatever might be the cause of damage was simply The lease contained an elaborate

scheme under which exceptional damage to the structure was to be the joint names of the lessor and ee and maintained at the expense of all the lessees, although the lessor had effected immurance in insurance policy with the consent or acquiescence of the lessees. In so far as damage to the

tructure resulted from an insured risk, there was simply no ground or importing any implied obligation to do more than lay out pands of the Jessor to making Sood manuage months commit and the that damage, any deficiency in the insurance moneys being made

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Hutchison agreed. Solicitors: Clintons: Read & Co.

state of repair.

Mr Paul D. I. Marshall for the appellants; Mr Nicholas Vineali

SIR JOHN VINELOTT said

es) v John

to Total-as October 31, 1996, at which date no allocation agreement had been entered into. Total nominated daily quantities for delivery as from that date and gas was delivered by Arco to Total from November 7, 1996, onwards. Subsequently the spot price of North Sea gas fell thus making it

Seller's failure to fulfil

ends contract

greenes to an end. Mr Sydney Kentridge, QC and Mr Laurence Rahinowitz for Total: Mr Gordon Pollock, OC and Mr Richard Jacobs for Arco.

in Total's interest to bring the sale

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said that the sppeal gave rise to a short goestion as to the effect of the non-fulfilment of a condition in each of three complex commercial agreements. .

Arco contended that the nonfulfilment of that condition-by the date fixed under the agreement for the commencement of give supply of the gas by them so foral only suspended the obligations under that agreement pending the fulfilment of that condition within a

reasonable time.

Total consended that non-fulfil-ment by that date entitled it to treat the agreement as at an end or as having terminated the agreement

The condition in paragraph (iii) of clause 2.8.1 was a condition precedent rather than a profin-issury condition. The substantial question was the effect on the recreent of the pop-fulfilment of

For Arco it was submitted, and the judge had accepted, that it was significant that the agreement contained no express provision for the termination of the agreement if the allocation agreer

In place by the first delivery date. However, it was plain that the first delivery date was of crucial importance in the scheme of the agreement. To treat the nondate as suspending the agreement left Total wholly without remedy

for an uncertain period.

It was impossible to accept that it was within the reasonable contemplation of the parties that so agreement was to provide certainty as far as possible in relation to the first delivery date. If Arco was right, the failure to

satisfy the condition precedent left the agreement suspended for an unknown period, thereby destroying that cortainty. The notion that the lailure to

comply with the condition before the first delivery date merely gave the first delivery once more the rise to the suspension of the rise to the suspension of the agreement had to be rejected. The obvious effect of the failure, and the only alternative to suspen-

sion, was the termination of the agreement that being implicit in the words this agreement is conditional on" in clause 281. Those words indicated the nature of the condition as being essential to the agreement so that if

the condition was not met time-ously, the provisions of the agreement had no further effect. That was consistent with the commer-cial purpose of giving certainty to In the absence of any further

agreement between the parties the ment terminated automati cally on the non-fulfilment of the

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE. issenting, said that the parties to attributed as having intended that the sale agreement should determine simply because Arco had not become party to the allocation agreement on or before the first delivery dage.

On an objective view of the sale agreement, they had not attached so great a significance to that date. contract had fixed no time for the fulfilment of the condition, so that it had to be fulfilled within a reasonable time, the reasonable ness being determined objectively as at the date of the contract.

Whatever the precise term of that period might be, it had not expired on November 7, 1996. when subject to Total's outstanding contention. Areo became party to the allocation agreement.

Lord Justice Otton delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Peter Gibson. Solicitors: Denton Hall; Herbert

Maintenance payments not tax deductible

Billingham (Inspector of Tax-

Total Gas Marketing Ltd v

Arco British Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord

Justice Peter Gibson and Lord

A buyer of North Sea gas could

treat a commercial agreement as

being ended and not merely sus-

pended because the seller had not

fulfilled a condition of the agree-

ment by the date of the commence-

The Court of Appeal so held in a

reserved judgment, Lord Justice Nourse dissenting, allowing an

appeal by the buyer, Total Gas

Marketing Ltd, from the refusal by

Mr Justice Jonathan Parker on

May 13, 1997, to declare that Total

was not bound by the terms of the

agreement with the sellers, Arco British Ltd, Atlantic Richfield Oil

and Gas (St James) Ltd and

Talisman North Sea Ltd. Arco was

granted leave to appeal to the House of Lords

A commercial agreement be-tween the parties in February 1995,

of a kind known as a "depletion contract", provided for the extrac-tion and delivery of 50 per cent of

the total gas in the Trent Reservou

at the Arco terminal at Bacton,

Norfolk until such time as it

became uneconomic to carry out

The agreement made provision

for a base price per therm, subject to escalation. At the time, the

billion cubic feet and to take about

14 years to extract.

The agreement, having made provision for the first delivery date, by clause 2.8.1 provided: "This agreement is conditional on...(iii) the seller becoming party to the allocation agreement."

allocation agreement.

The allocation agreement was

defined as the agreement(s) provid-ing for the commingling, alloca-tion and attribution of natural gas

The judge had found that "until that allocation agreement was in

place at a terminal the commin-

gling process cannot take place and seliers of gas would be unable

to deliver gas to buyers ashore ... this fact is of direct relevance in

uture extraction.

4 years to extract.

Judgment December 16]

ment of supply.....

Justice Otton

Maintenance payments made by a father to his former wife under the terms of an agreement stating that he pay maintenance to his young daughter were not "qualifying maintenance payments" within section 347B(i) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1968, inserted by section 36(1) of the Finance Act 1988, and were not father's income for tax purposes. Mr Justice Rimer so held in the

Chancery Division on November 13, allowing the Crown's appeal by way of case stated from the determination of Havering general commissioners that had held

John, be entitled to made certain deductions in respect of maintenance payments for the year 1992-

HIS LORDSHIP waid that beetion 347B(I) defined "qualifying maintenance payment" as a periodical payment by a party to a marriage that had been dissolved and made under an order by a court or under a written agreement the other party and for the mainte-nance of the other party, or (ii) to the other party for the maintenance by the other party of any child of the family..."

Aithough the father made the

it was provided by clause 3 of the deed of arrangement made be-tween them in 1990 that he was to pay maintenance to the child. Thus the agreement did not expressly provide for payments to the other party for the maintenance by the other party of any child" and thus did not satisfy section 347B(1)(i) or

Correction

R v Avis (The Times December 19), Mr John Lloyd-Jones represented Gerald Thomas; Mr thony Brigden, instructed by Wainwright & Cummings, represensed Richard Torrington, and Mr Simon Tlerney, solicitor, repre-sented Shaun Marquez.

European Law Report

Luxembourg

Calculating part-time workers' entitlement

Services Board and Another Case C-246/96

Before R. Schintgen, President of Chamber and Judges G. F. Mancird, P. J. G. Kapteyn, J. L. Murray and G. Hirsch Advocate General C. Cosmas

(Opinion July 10) [Judgment December 11] Periods of service completed by part-time workers who had suf-fered indirect sex discrimination were to be taken into account as from April 8, 1976, for the purpose

denied to them but to which they were entitled. A national rule limiting the effect of a successful claim to entitlement to join an occupational pension scheme to a period not exceeding two years before the date of commencement of the proceed-ings, was precluded by Com-

of calculating certain pension-related benefits which had been

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the Office of the Industrial Tribonals and the Pair Employment Tri-bunal, Belfast, for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EC

Regulation 3 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Superannuation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984 defined a "inental health officer" as a wholetime officer on the medical or nursing staff of a mental hospital. By regulation 50(2), where a person who passed the age of 50 had worked as a mental health officer and continued to work in that capacity, his or her sub-sequent service was reckoned for pension purposes at twice its length and the right to a pension was obtained at the age of 55 rather

Regulation 12 of the Occupa-tional Pension Schemes (Equal Access to Membership) Regula-tions (Northern Ireland) 1976 pro-vided that, in proceedings concerning access to membership of occupational pension schemes, the right to be admitted to the scheme was to have effect from a date no earlier than two years before the institution of the

The applicants, Mary Magorrian and Irene Conning-ham, had been employed, since

nurses in the mental health sector by a public-sector health board, and both had completed a period of full-time work and then, until their retirement in 1992 and 1994 respectively, a period of part-time

They had been affiliated to a voluntary contracted-out pension scheme, open to part-time workers, under which, on their retirement, affiliated persons received a lump-sum payment followed by monthly

When they retired, the applicants received lump sums and basic pensions, but not additional benefits to which they would have been entitled under regulation 50(2) of the 1984 Regulations if they had had the status of mental health officers at the time of their

In proceedings in which the applicants, relying on article 119 of the EC Treaty on equal pay for men and women, claimed the additional benefits, the national court found that the exclusion of part-time nurses from mental health officer status constituted indirect sex discrimination, as considerably more women than men were affected, and that the

discrimination was unjustified.
The court referred the question whether the date from which the applicants' service should be counted, for calculating the additional benefits to which they were entitled, was April 8, 1976, the date of the judgment in Case 43/75 Defrenne v Sabena ([1976] ICR 547; [1976] ECR 455), or May 17, 1990, the date of the judgment in Case C-262/88 Barber v Guardian Royal Exchange Assirance Group (The Times May 18, 1990; [1991] i QB 344; [1990] ECR [-1889], and a further question relating to the two-year restriction on

in its judgment the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice ruled: I in Defrence the court had held that article 119 could be relied on before national courts but that considerations of legal certainty limited reliance on the direct effect of article 119 to claims concerning pay periods after the date of the

judgment in that case.
In Barber it was held that the direct effect of article 119 could be relied on for the purpose of claiming equal treatment in the matter of occupational pensions, only in relation to benefits payable in respect of periods of employThat limitation was also to be

found in Protocol No 2 sometét to ... toma in Protocol No 2 same test to the Treaty on European Union...
ell.2 However, in Case C55193 Vroege v NCIV Institution woor Volkshulsvesting BV. (The Fines December 7, 1994; [1995] 1988, 635; [1994] ECR I-4541), the court took the view that the Barber limitation only applied in the case of binded. only applied in the case of kinds of discrimination which employers and pension schemes could reasonably have considered to be

It also stated that as far as the right to join an occupational there was no reason to suppose that those concerned could have been mistaken as to the applicabilthe darticle 119, and in fact it had been clear since Case 170/84 Bilka-Kaufhaus GmbH v Weber von Harz [1987] ICR 110: [1986] ECR 1607) that any sex disc in the recognition of that right infringed article 119.

Therefore, as the judgment in Bilka included no limitation of its effect in time, the direct effect of article 119 could be relied on as from the date of the judgment in Defrenne, in which that article was first held to have direct effect, in order retroactively to claim equal treatment in relation to the right to join an occupational pension

The United Kingdom Govern-ment argued that the case con-cerned the amount of a pension paid under an occupational scheme and not the right to belong to such a scheme, that, con-sequently, article 119 only applied to alter the level of the benefits to which persons such as the applicants were entitled, and that only periods after May 17, 1990 should be taken into account for the purposes of that calculation.

That could not be accepted as, even if the persons concerned had always been entitled to a retirement pension under the superannuation scheme, they were not fully admitted to that scheme: solely on account of the fact that they worked part-time, they were specifically excluded from mental health officer status which gave access to the additional benefits under the scheme.

In Case C-435/93 Diet; v Stichning Thuiszorg Rotterdam (1996) ECR 1-5223) the court held

the right to join such a scheme, and the same was true where the discrimination suffered by parttime Workers stemmed to a special scheme which con-ferred entitlement to additional

2 Whereas the rules at issue in Case C-338/91 Steenhorst-Case C-338/91 Steenhorst-Neerings v Bestuur van de Bedrijfsvereniging voor Detailhandel ([1993] ECR 1-5475) and Case C-410/92-Johnson v Chief Adjudication Officer (No 2) (The Times December 26, 1994; [1995] ICR 375: [1994] ECR 1-5483) merely limited. In the interests of legal certainty, the period with the certainty, the period, prior to commencement of proceedings, in respect of which backdated bene-fits could be obtained, the present rule prevented the entire record of service from April 8, 1976 to 1990 (two years before the date of commencement of the proceedings) from being taken into ac-count for the purposes of calculating the additional benefits which would be payable even after the date of the claim.

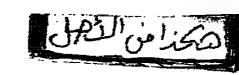
Consequently, unlike the rules at issue in those judgments, which did not strike at the very essence of the rights conferred by the Community legal order, a rule such as the present was such as to render any action by individuals relying on Community law impossible in

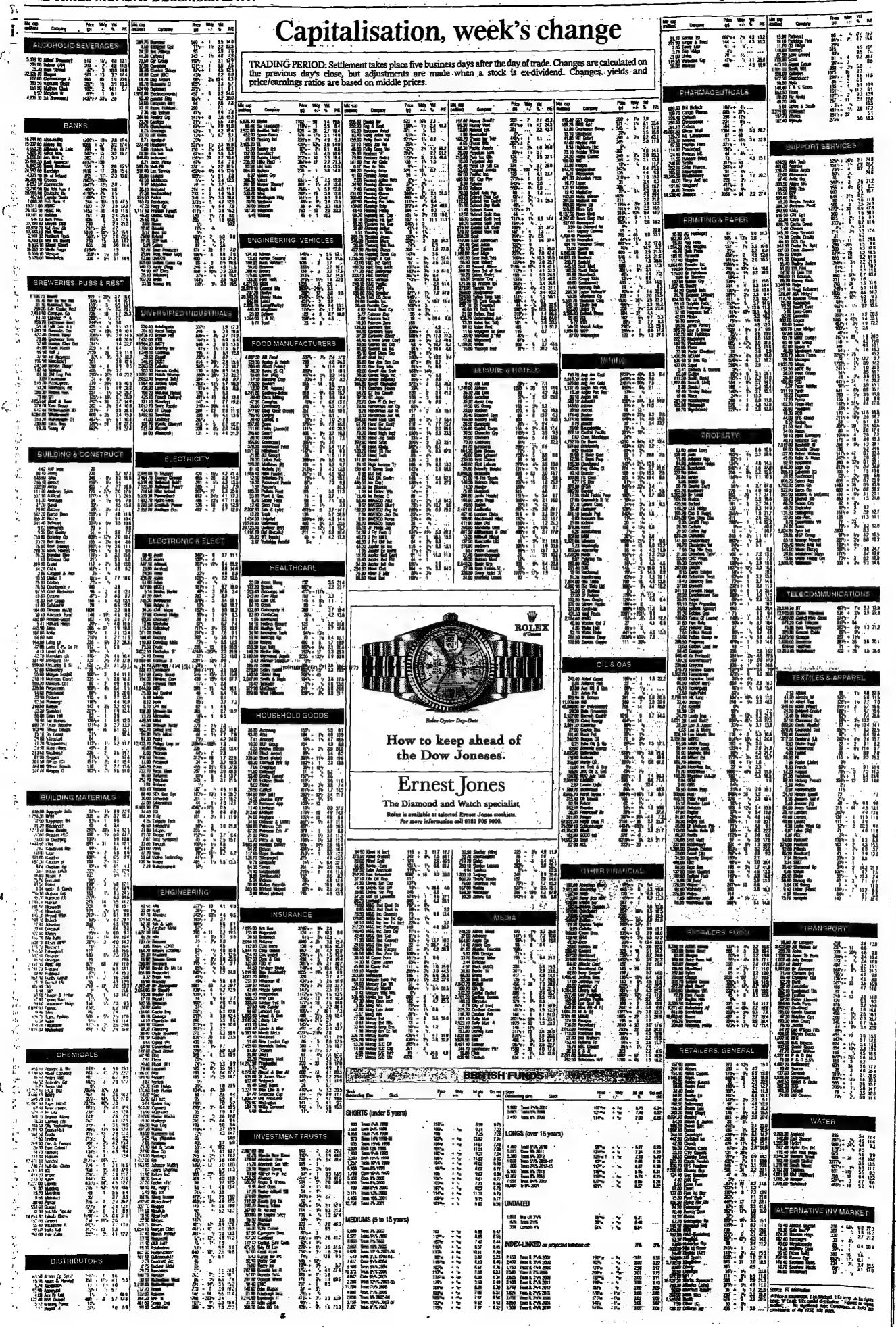
practice.

Moreover, the effect of that rule was to limit in time the direct effect of article 119 in cases in which no such limitation had been laid down either in the court's case law or in Protocol No 2

On those grounds, the Court ruled: I Periods of service completed by part-time workers who had suf-lered indirect discrimination based on sex must be taken into account as from April 8, 1976, the date of the judgment in Defrenne, for the purposes of calculating the additional benefits to which they were entitled.

2 Community law precluded the application, to a claim based on article 119 of the EC Treaty for recognition of the claimants' entitlement to join an occupational pension scheme, of a national rule under which such entitlement, in the event of a successful claim, was limited to a period which started to run from a point in time two years





Security

a lure to

foreign

business

The languages spoken on the tennis courts and around the swimming pools of Cyprus's five-star hotels in Nicosia and Limassol provide a brief hist-

ory of the island's booming

In the 1970s and 1980s

Arabic was commonly hearth

Lebanon's civil war had given

the offshore sector its first big

break. Serbo-Croat crept in

after the collapse of Yugosia-

via but has since been

swamped by Russian. More than 28,000 offshore

companies, including

banks, have registered

Cyprus since, about 1,200 of

them with established offices.

Recent years have seen a huge

increase in the number of

companies established by

Russians and other business-

men from the former Eastern

bloc. But there remains a

strong representation of West-

ern firms, such as Coca-Cola and AT&T, who use Cyprus as a base for the Middle East

The island's political and

economic stability in a volatile region has been one of its

strongest assets. Other attrac-

tions include a well-educated

workforce, first-rate telecom

munications and a British-

based legal system, but the

biggest incentive remains the

flat rate of tax of 4.25 per cent

Many Russians worried by

trime at home are pleased to

discover a safe base for their

families that also offers a well-

regulated first step into the

Western business world.

Their way is eased by cultural

A significant number of

Cypriots are fluent Russian

speakers, a legacy of the close ties between the island's Com-

munist Party and Moscow.

which enabled many poorer

and Orthodox religious ties.

on net taxable profit.

and North Africa.

offshore sector.

How businessmen on both sides are helping the UN to bring about a united island. Michael Theodoulou presents a two-page report

Is sad Cyprus at last on a path to peace?

new year with hope foreboding. aware it will usher in the most critical period of Cyprus's history since the island was sundered along religious and ethnic lines nearly a quarter of a century ago.

The international community is set to launch its most determined effort to reunite the island under a federal system once February's Greek Cypriot presidential elections

It is not difficult to see why, after years of stalemate, there is unprecedented interest from both sides of the Atlantic. For the first time, the convoluted Cyprus problem has an effective deadline: Cyprus is due to begin accession talks with the European Union at the beginning of April and no one is keen to usher in a country split by a Berlin-style wall. The hope is that settlement talks and the accession negotiations, which could drag on for years, will proceed in parallel.

Meanwhile, President Glafcos Clerides, the charismatic 78-year-old Greek Cypriot leader who is likely to win a second five-year term in the polls, attributes heightened American interest in a country half the size of New Jersey to Washington's belief that the heavily militarised island is not an "extinct volcano". Any eruption could well involve its feuding Nato allies. Greece

and Turkey. However, recent developments have increased the already daunting challenge facing the international community. Turkey, a key player with 35,000 troops stationed in northern Cyprus since it in-vaded in 1974, responded furiously this month when the EU again snubbed its long-stand-



President Clerides: likely to win a second five-year term

ing membership application while offering accession talks to Cyprus and all the former Warsaw pact members.

Ankara responded by rejecting further political dialogue with the EU and renewed its threat to integrate breakaway northern Cyprus. In turn, Rauf Denktas, the veteran Turkish Cypriot leader, declared the EU's decision meant an end to negotiations with the Greek Cypriots. The intercommunal talks have died and, under these conditions a federation is not on the agenda," said a statement from his office.

Foreign diplomats in Nico sia take the threats seriously. but point out that Mr Denktas has called off talks in the past only to return to the table at Turkey's insistence. "No-one sees this as the end of the process," said one envoy, adding that the EU may have time to smooth ruffled Turkish feathers by February.

shunned by international mediators, but some point to the growing contacts between the two communities as a sign of hope and evidence of a mutual

togethers organised by the United Nations in the buffer zone that splits the island are enthusiastically attended.

In recent months, leading businessmen from both sides have been meeting regularly to build confidence between their estranged communities through economic co-opera-tion. They have already achieved a breakthrough: the UN is now installing a system to allow telecommunications across the divide.

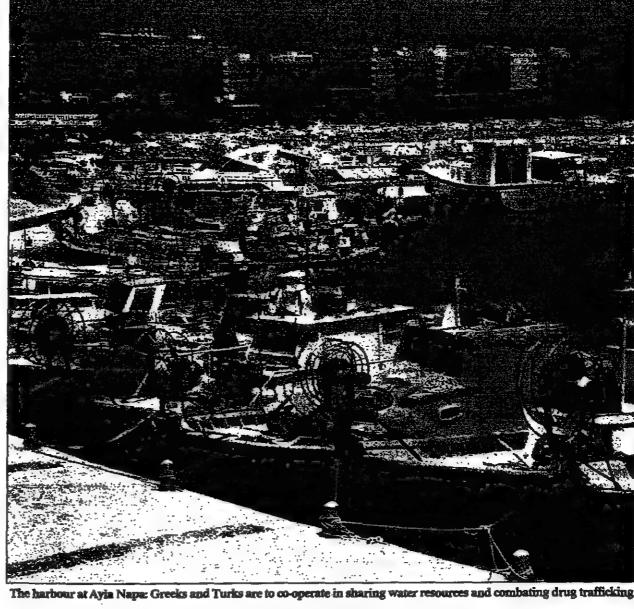
A bi-communal courier service is on the way, together with a language school for Greek Cypriots to learn Turkish and vice versa. There are proposals to co-operate on environmental issues, combating illegal drugs, controlling diseases and sharing water resources.

The Cyprus problem has to be solved and everyone knows that - therefore it can be solved, says Constantinos Lordos, a Greek Cypriot businessman closely involved in the rapprochement efforts.

Ironically, Cyprus's EU ap-plication was meant to provide an "historic opportunity" to bring about a settlement by serving as a lever to prise concessions from both sides.

The application was made unilaterally by the internationally-recognised Greek Cypriot administration in 1990. They know entry will be very difficult without at least progress towards a settlement, although the EU has stopped short of saying it would be impossible for fear of giving Turkey an effective veso over yprus's application.

The unspoken warning to the Turkish Cypriots, whose economy has stagnated after years of international isolation, is that they could miss the EU train if the Greek Cypriots



board alone, However, Mr Denktas complains that Cyprus's EU application was made without the consent of his community whose interests he insists could be endangered by membership, especially with Greece in the club while Turkey, on which northern Cyprus relies for its security and financial surviv-

al. is excluded

The EU is holding out the carrot of Turkish Cypriot par-ticipation in the membership negotiations, although Mr Denktas remains adamant Brussels must first recognise the legitimacy of his breakaway state and admit Turkey at the same time as Cyprus. Against this complex political background, the interna-

tional community is also struggling to halt a full-blooded arms race. It gathered pace earlier this year when the Greek Cypriots, outnumbered and outguined by the Turkish army in northern Cyprus, ordered a multi-million pound missile desence system from Russia which is due to arrive by next autumn.

Turkey, concerned its strategic superiority in the eastern Mediterranean would be challenged, has warned it will not allow the missiles to be Greece, which signed a joint defence pact with Cyprus four years ago. says any Turkish strike would

talks. Inflation stands at just over 3 per cent. The fiscal deficit has climbed, probably as a result of increased defence

spending, but as a percentage of the GDP is about 4 per cent.

The boom years that saw

annual growth rates topping 5 per cent may now be over, but a provisional 2.5 per cent

growth rate for this year is still

in line with the EU average,

and a 4.5 per cent growth rate is forecast for 1998. Perhaps most crucially for a country

clamouring to enter the EU.
Cyprus is considered to have full employment.

be a burden to the Community

budget and could even be a net

contributor," says Constant-

inos Mavrantonis, an econom-

ic adviser with the European

Commission delegation in

There are sound economic

reasons why Greek Cypriots

should want to join the EU,

which absorbs about 50 per cent of their exports and

accounts for 55 per cent of their

imports. But their motivation

is overwhelmingly political.

They believe entry could help

re-unify the island, or at least

provide a guarantee against further Turkish expansion.

"Cyprus certainly would not

Some diplomats doubt the missiles will ever arrive. Privately, some Greek Cypriots officials concede the primary aim of ordering them was not so much to boost defences but to galvanise the international community into taking the Cyprus problem more seriously. If there were progress towards a solution, delivery of the missiles would be cancelled, Mr Clerides has

promised. Each side has long accepted proposals to reunite the island under a bi-zonal federation, in which the Turkish Cypriots, who are one in five of the population but control 37 per cent of the territory, would

their control. However the exact nature of that federation and such key issues as sovereignty, territory, security guarantees and the return of refugees have led to deadlock.

The sad truth is that in Cyprus there is a lack of confidence in the good faith of the other side which undermines efforts to reach agree ment." says Sir David Hannay, Britain's diplomatic

oig gun on Cyprus.
"On the Greek Cypriot side there is a belief that the basic Turkish Cypriot objective is secession and an entirely separate state. The Turkish Cypriot side believes that the basic Greek Cypriot objective is

to study in the Eastern bloc. The traffic is two-way, with many Western companies using Cyprus as a springboard into Russia and Eastern Growth paves the way

Europe. Large American and Canadian oil services com-panies operating in Siberia. have set up bases. Last month Credit Suisse First Boston, the multinational banking giant, reportedly booked \$6.6 billion of its investments in Russia through its recently established offshore bank in Cyprus, leading to gleeful predictions in the local press that more first-rate international banks would follow suit and establish a

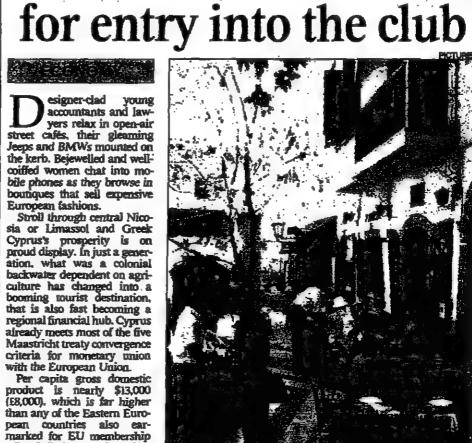
hip management com-panies are among the biggest in the offshore sector, with most based in Limassol. "Cyprus is now attracting shipping people, not just because of low taxes, but because it has become a leading maritime centre," says Norman Elliott, the president of an association representing the offshore

community.

With a fifth of the world's ships flying the Cyprus flag, the authorities have had difficulty keeping up with the fleet's expansion. Smarting from its tag as a "flag of convenience", and under pressure to meet European Union standards, they are trying to improve safety by placing Cypriot ship inspectors in some 40 ports around the world.

Understandably, the Gov-ernment is determined that EU entry does not erode the attractions of its low-tax offshore regime. "The Finance Minister is aggressively positive about protecting the offshore community in the forthcoming EU negotiations," says Mr Elliott.

Proof of that commitment came in January when the Government renewed the 4.25 per cent offshore tax ceiling for another ten years. According to the finance minister, Christodoulos Christodoulou, there are also advantages for the EU in Cyprus retaining its offshore sector. "Europe itself will have a lot to benefit by using Cyprus as a starting block and a bridge to the Middle East," he says.



Greek Cyprus: a colonial backwater once dependent on agriculture has changed into a booming tourist destination

reason the Greek Cypriot au-thorities are keen to ensure there are few reservations about the economy.

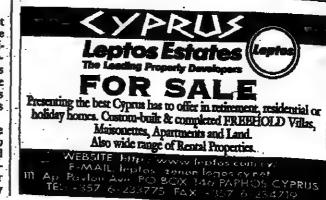
More than 20 teams have been allocated to harmonise legislation with the EU. The Central Bank adopted a series of financial sector reforms in 1996, although economists say more must be done to liberalise interest rates and the movement of capital for inward and outward investment. The initial target of the task force is to harmonise up to 80 per cent of Cypriot legislation by 2000.

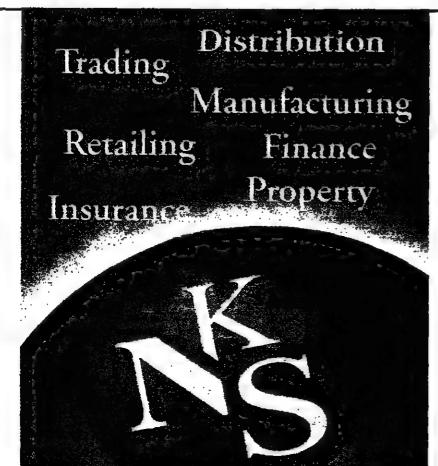
ess enthusiastic about the EU challenge are those involved in traditionally protected and labourintensive industries such as dothing and footwear, where rising wages and small units have made their products less

"The way ahead for the Yet because Cyprus remains divided, they realise their apmanufacturing sector is to go plication presents political problems for Brussels that for quality, innovation and enter partnerships with Eurothose of the Eastern European pean companies," says Mr Mavrantonis. Economists say there are good prospects for chemicals and food process-

The once important agricultural sector, whose contribu-tion to the GDP has shrunk to less than 10 per cent, is expected to do well from EU entry because domestic support to farmers in Europe is

higher than in Cyprus.
Farmers who grow citrus
fruits, potatoes, table grapes and vegetables, the main agricultural exports, are expected no benefit most.





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Whether visiting the island for holidays or planning on setting up home there, Cyprus has much to offer, says Michael Theodoulou

TOURISM

ickle and often wanton they
may be, but the gods on
Olympus seem to look
kindly on Cyprus's tourism
industry, the mainstay of the
economy. The doomsayers are usually proved wrong, the dips rarely

This year proves the point. It started badly after a brief outbreak of violence along the island's dividing Green Line the summer before. Then the Greek Cypriots ordered a multimilion dollar air defence system from Russia. Turkey threatened to destroy the weapons if they were ever deployed.

For many Greek Cypriots, these alarming headlines served a useful purpose. They reminded the international community that the island was forcibly divided, heavily militarised and desperately in need of a solution. Rising tension galvanised interest from both sides of the Atlantic.

At the same time, the tourism authorities were counting the cost of such bad publicity. They insisted, justifiably, that the resort areas were well away from the tense United Nations-patrolled buffer zone and that Cyprus is so relatively crime-free that only the paranoid bother to lock their cars.

In the end, the year passed peacefully and, with the Americans launching a long-awaited initiative to reunite the island, the news headlines from Cyprus improved. So, after initial predictions of a 5 per cent fall in tourism, 1997 is set instead for a 5 per cent rise. Tourism revenues are expected to reach CE830 million (1996 million sterling), up CE20 million on the

previous record.

Of the two million arrivals

770,000 were from Britain — which
has long dominated the tourism
market — 50,000 more than last
year, thanks mainly to sterling's 20
per cent increase against the
Cyprus pound in the past 12
months. Hoteliers also offered good
rates to tour operators.

Using expensive advertising campaigns, Cyprus is aggressively chasing other markets. Arrivals from Russia increased by a third to 150,000 this year, with many hotels now offering bortsch on the menu and Izvestia in their bookshops.

"They're big spenders, big drinkers and big tippers," entitused a public relations assistant at a four-star hotel in Limassol, the Russians favourite resort on the island.

Bookings are also up from Israel.

with many taking advantage of the short trip for a long weekend away from the tensions at home.

The second of th

THE PERSON NAMED IN

17.1



On the tourist trail Paphos has Roman mosaics and fine Byzantine churches, Left, The Tombs of the Kings from the 3rd century BC, and, right, the theatre overlooking the sea at Kourion

1974 invasion by Turkish forces.

The CTO is promoting agrotourism for those not content to

broil on the beach. Villages run

down from years of rural depopula-

tion are being attractively restored to bring in visitors who want to

sample the old Cyprus, from basic

but tasty village cooking to earthy farm smells and the braying of

also recommended. Towns such as

Platres, home to the lovely Forest

Park Hotel and its chorus of

nightingales, were the favourite

summer haunts of British colonial

few days in the picturesque, higgledy-piggledy villages in the pine-clad

Troodos mountains are

A treasure chest of the ancient and the modern

Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) has long been concerned that overdevelopment of the coast-line may kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. It has for years hankered after what it calls the "high quality" tourist, one that behaves himself, spends a lot and is

environmentally conscious.

There are restrictions on building hotels, but with some two million tourists a year — three times the Greek Cypriot population—some already argue Cyprus has become a mass-market destination.

Nevertheless, Cyprus has learnt from the mistakes of the past, which in any case were understandable considering the rush to build after the loss of the biggest resorts such as Famagusta after the

officials, keen to escape furnace-like lowlands in July and August. The advent of air-conditioning in the 1950s boosted the beach resorts

and saved these mountain villages, where monasteries are more common than hotels, from despoliation.

On the coast. Paphos has a treasure trove of Roman mosaics and fine, Byzantine churches. It is a short drive from the Akamas peninsula, one of the Mediterranean's last unspoilt forests, whose spectacular coastline features cliffs that plunge hundreds of feet into

the turquoise sea, limestone caves,

virgin lagoons, rock beaches and

sandy coves that are breeding

grounds for rare turtles.

There is a national plan to market Cyprus as a golfing destination. And nautical tourism is being boosted with plans for marinas in Paphos and the eastern resorts of

Paralimni and Ayia Napa.

The latter is a bustling, neon-lit party town popular with younger visitors and recently home to Waterworld, a Disney-style park of high adrenalin water slides and rides with Greek mythology as its thems.

It may be rather tacky, but it seems to have pleased the gods.

PROPERTY

For the Ancient Brits, as the several thousand retirees from the former colonial master are often called, Cyprus is a home from home. For many, the day begins as it would in drizzly Clapham. listening to John Humphrys or Anna Ford grilling a politican. But the Today programme, which is available on British Forces Radio, starts here at the more civilised hour of 8.30am.

By 11.15am, just as they settle down to their first gin and tonic on the veranda, it is time for *The Archers*. Those beyond the reach of Forces Radio make do with the BBC World Service.

The British papers arrive a day late, although many now get them from the Internet. Sky Sports is available on satellite. Cypriots know how to brew a decent cup of tea, most speak English, many are Anglophiles and motorists drive on the left.

And with Britain just a fourhour flight away, the island is a magnet for family members taking advantage of the accommodation provided by those with retirement or holiday homes.

"I know many couples here who see more of their children and grandchildren than they would back in Britain," says Dolores Savvides, a retirement expert based in Limassol. "They see their homes as a great place to entertain their families. It's a place where people are able to lead a full and interesting life at modest cost in a warm and healthy climate." In recent years, she adds, better golfing facilities have proved another major attraction.

Lifestyle considerations apart, there are also substantial fiscal incentives. British pensions received in Cyprus are liable for income tax at a nominal rate of 5 per cent with the first £2,400 exempt. Those receiving investment income from abroad are only taxed on money brought to Cyprus, so unremitted assets located in an offshore tax haven are not taxed in Cyprus.

Now is a good time to buy property, say local estate agents. Reduced demand in recent years has made prices fall by about 15 per cent in resorts such as Paphos, which is the most popular with British retirees. This has been compounded by sterling's strength, which means the real cost of a house for a British buyer is probably 30 per cent lower than it was two years ago.

"In Paphos you can get a detached three-bedroom bungalow with a sea view, swimming

Pensioners stay wealthy and healthy



Coral Bay, Paphos: fancy a laze in the sun, a swim or a round of golf

pool and large garden for about £120,000," says Antony Loizou, a

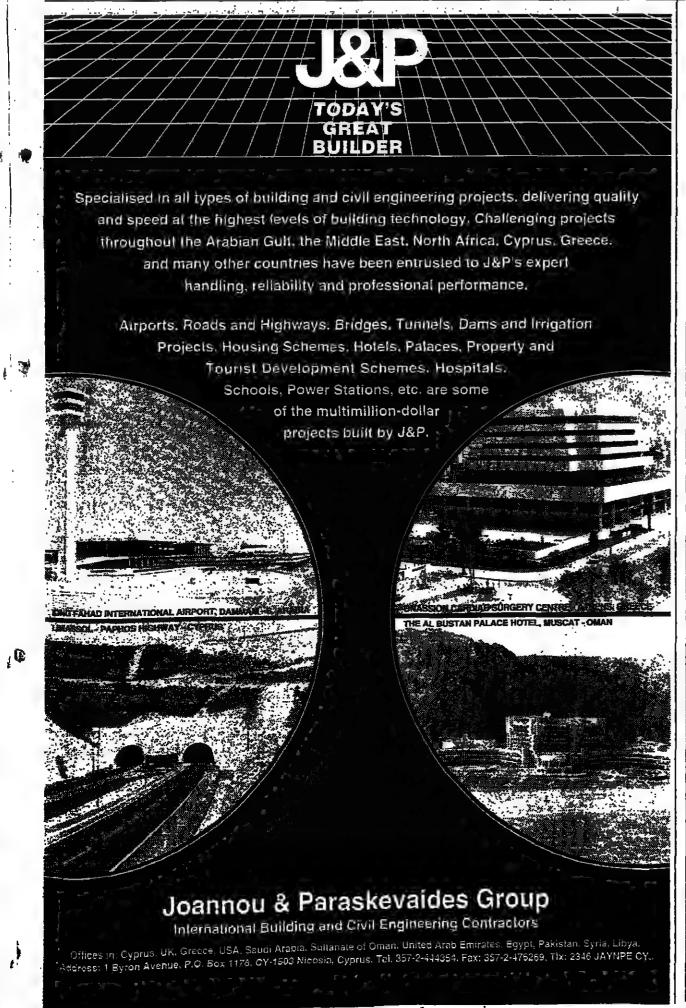
leading chartered surveyor.

Unlike most estate agents, Ms Savvides says Britons should not buy homes here with a view to investment. Many, keen to return to Britain after a partner suddenly dies, sell their homes quickly and realise little capital gain.

"You probably won't lose money, but don't expect a great

gain. Moving here is more to do with lifestyle," she says. However, she agrees that when Cyprus does eventually join the European Union, property prices are expected to rise sharply.

Foreigners are not allowed to own more than one house or flat. Some bureaucracy is also involved, although this is intended to protect the buyer. Any good lawyer or estate agent can smooth the way.





the second secon

THE FACTS

Turnover: £1.4 billion.
Pre-tax profit: £444 million.
Employees: 10,500.
Overview: BAA owns and operates seven UK airports, including Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, and is increasingly winning con-tracts overseas. Seeking a big share of the £12 billion world duty and tax-free market. Factory outlets, through BAA McArthur/Glen, and extensive property in-terests. Building £440m Heathrow Express rail link.

THE BOARD

Chief executive, since 1990, is Sir John Egan, renowned for turning round Jaguar in the 1980s, then selling it to Ford at a massive premium. Two years from retirement, Sir John, 58, has begun to clear his diary, stepping down as both chairman of London Tourist Board and director of the Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust. He remains vice-chairman of Legal & General Key henchmen include Russell Walls, group finance direc-tor and a non-executive director of Ladbroke Group, and Brian Collie, group re-tail director, who has work-ed for Burton Group and Littlewoods. Gordon Edington, group property director and chairman of BAA International, is chairman of the Public Art Development Trust, and vice-president of the British Impact Federal the British Property Federation. Mike Hodgkinson, group airports director, is a director of Molins. Although not a main board director, Des Wilson, the one-time liberal Party president, en-joys a high-profile role as head of corporate and pub-

BAA chairman and head of the remuneration committee is Brian Smith, non-executive chairman of Cable and Wireless. Non-executive deputy chairman, since September, is Lawrence Urquhart, chairman of Burmah Castrol, English China Clays and Scottish Widows. A director of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, he is due to succeed Dr Smith as BAA chairman on his retirement in July 1998. Chairmen of the ethics committee is Lord Wright of Richmond who sits on the boards of British Petroleum, De La Rue and Unilever. The other non-executives are Marcus Agius, vice-chairman of Lazard Brothers, and Tony Barrell, who chairs BAA's safety, security and environ-ment committee.

British airports used to be grotty affairs — badly run, starved of investment and not exactly known for their culinary delights. The old British Airports Authority came to encapsulate the worst features of a state-run monster. Privatise it and surely no one would buy the shares.

But people did, swept up in the Eighties' enthusiasm for privatisation issues, and enticed by a slick new brand, with British Airports Authority dropped in favour of BAA. Under the respected tutelage of Sir John Egan, BAA has worked wonders at Heathrow, Gatwick and elsewhere, smartening up facilities and bringing in upmarket concessions such as Caviar House and Harrods.

Overcrowding remains a problem - Heathrow Terminal I, designed to cater for eight million people a year in the 1960s, now carries 23 million people annually — but at least the UK's leading airports look smarter and cleaner.

And there is more to BAA than just airports, of course. More than half the company's revenues come from retailing. both in airports and through joint ventures such as BAA McArthur/Glen, which builds and operates factory shopping outlets. Just under a fifth of revenues comes from property, through BAA Lynton, which is focusing on business parks. warehouses and similar ventures at and around airports. With duty and tax-free shop-

ping within Europe facing abolition in 1999, BAA is seeking an increasing slice of the international duty-free market. A key plank in the strategy fell into place in August, when BAA paid \$423 million for Duty Free International, based in America. BAA now claims up to 7 per cent of the world's duty-free market -10 per cent if you include

Europe. The company is making a name for itself on other fronts, managing Indianapolis airport and running retailing at Pittsburgh. It hopes to win the contract to oversee catering at Newark in New Jersey.

BAA is part of the Australia Pacific Airports (APA) consortium which successfully took a 50-year lease on Melbourne airport in May. APA has been shortlisted to bid for Coolangatta, Darwin and Launceston airports in the second round of bids for Australia's airports, BAA manages Naples airport in Italy and is also eyeing opportunities in South Africa, where

key points on the UK rail

vice. It is aimed primarily at tourists in West End hotels.

collecting them by bus and

shepherding them to the de-

parture gates. The Heathrow

Express opens to passengers

with hand luggage in June

1998. Full luggage check-in facilities will be available from

A separate line linking

Heathrow with St Pancras in

north London, the future site

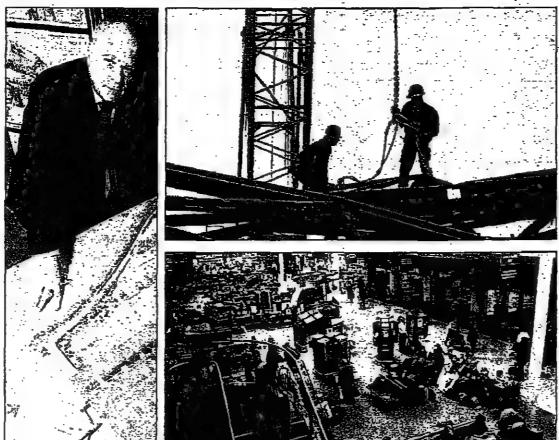
of the high-speed Channel Tunnel rail link, may follow.

BAA foresees a raft of new rail

projects. linking Heathrow,

Gatwick and Stansted with

March 1999.



Under the respected leadership of Sir John Egan, BAA is developing its tunnel vision, the £440 million Heathrow Express rail link, right, while construction operations are just one facet of the increasingly diverse group that is best known for its seven UK airports, including Heathrow

BAA has been campaigning veciferously for Heathrow's proposed Terminal 5 — alup to 30 per cent of the national airport operator is to Next comes railways, in the ady the subject of the world's high-tech form of the £440 longest-running public inquimillion Heathrow Express. ry. BAA staff have been living linking Heathrow and Pad-dington with a 15-minute ser-

in hotels at Heathrow for the past three years. Lobbying has been accompanied by a slick

marketing campaign, aimed at mollifying local residents and proving that BAA is committed to ethical and environmental issues.

The Terminal 5 inquiry is expected to grind to a halt in August 1998, with a decision

by the Government no earlier

MUNITER SEES NO.

"BAA is an incredibly steedy earner, and institutions like predictable businesses. Problems with regulators, the windfall tex, a change of government, has tended to undermine confidence, but the shares look good value." Richard Hanna, transport analyst, UBS

"BAA shares are at roughly a 10 per cent discount to the market, which is a little bit surprising. There is a view that BAA is moving into higher-risk areas, and should perhaps stick to their knitting and continue investing in airports. I'm fairly positive on BAA and think the tears are overdone." Wn Ellis, transport analyst, SBC Warburg Dilion Read "Traffic outlook is good, with 7-7.5 per cent continuing into

the second half. If, as we expect, British Airways-American Airlines clearance comes through early next year, we will be looking for more traffic growth. Peter Bergius, Hoare Govet!

than the spring of 2000. The earliest possible opening date will be late 2004, ensuring years of continuing over-

crowding at Heathrow.

Another negative lies in the BAA share price, which has proved stubbornly slow to respond to the various BAA ininatives. There are shortterm problems - notably the strong pound, which has hit spending at airports by departing tourists, and the Japanese in particular. This, coupled with a new five-year regulatory cap limiting in-creases in landing charges at Heathrow and Gatwick, resulted in pre-tax profits rising by just 2 per cent to £310 million in the six months to September 30.

Yet longer term, BAA has much going for it. Passenger numbers are on an upward curve — leaving aside the recent fire at Heathrow Terminal I — and the relentless

pursuit of overseas opportunities will make for a highly diversified international company. The windfall tax imposed on BAA and other privatised companies turned out to be unexpectedly lenient.

Management succession is an issue, with Sir John due to step down as chief executive in 1999 after nine years in the job, but moves are being made to ensure an orderly transition.

Sir. John has handed the reins to his senior managers. shifting decision-making down the line via a new executive committee, and urging his staff to explore all options in driving BAA forward. Unlocking shareholder value is the underlying theme. That the share price has proved so dogmatic is undoubtedly a source of frustra-

tion to management. With BAA increasingly polarised around retailing, airport management, manag-

ing construction projects, and property - railways could develop into a fifth - the flotation of one or more BAA core areas must be a possibility. Sir John says everything is

up for debate. UK airports have come a long way under BAA, but they still have their detractors. Problems include noise pollution, environmentally damaging emissions, queues and overcrowding, and the perception that prices for food and drink are outrageously high.

BAA has done much to improve tax and duty-free sales, yet it constantly laces accusations that it is somehow ripping off the consumer. Recent claims by Sir Terence Conran, the restaurateur, that BAA has destroyed UK airports by rurning them into "cluttered shopping centres", prompted dozens of letters in

support of his view. BAA takes the expression of its ethical standards terribly seriously and attracts a high score from Integrity Works, our independent consultant The company has a code of ethics that is among the best in the UK. It is also very open in discussing its business standards. The challenge facing BAA is to keep up with changing expectations while remaining true to its values

and principles. The company fares respectably in the fat-cat league, although Crisp Consulting found Sir John to be 32 per cent over-paid compared with the FTSE 100 average, earning £605,000 in 1996-97. BAA awards bonuses according to a complex set of criteria, and they can go down as well as up. The pay of BAA non-executives was very slightly above average, and their number was within the acceptable

JON ASHWORTH

Ethical expression¹ 8½/10 Fat-cat quotientº...... 6/10 Financial record 7/10 Share performance... 5/10 Attitude to employees 8/10 Strength of brand...... 7/10 Annual report.

TOURIST RATES

buy". The Sunday Times: Buy Aerospace, Clinical Fayrewood and Hogg Robin-Buy Cairn Energy. Financial Burmah Castrol and Inn Busi-

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Telegraph: Buy The General Electric Company, Carlton Communications, Alfred McAlpine, Cosalt and DCS, the computer soft-Computing, Hawtal Whiting, First Leisure, Vero, son. The Express on Sunday. on Sunday. Buy ness: Hold Nycomed

WORLD TELECOM has attracted a lot of attention. Last week it announced plans to invest ELI million in continen-

phonecards and telephone chargecards, which offer discounts to large operators such as BT. Clients include Heinz, Gillette and the UN.

pany, which is valued at about £57 million and came to the Alternative Investment Market in March, had sales of £4 million last year and

The company says it can voicemail, fax and e-mail.

have performed unevenly. since their debut this year at 150p, rising to 197p in May, only to fall back to 157p, and close on Friday at 160p.

broker, forecasts sales of £30 million next year, with pretax profits of El million. For 1999, the forecast is for pretax profits of £4 million on

24.8

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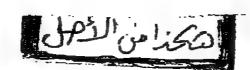
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nvestors will surely recognise 1997 as the year of the bull (provided that they were not too heavily invested in the Far East) and, noting the importance of the beef issue, politicians of all parties might well concur - albeit for rather different reasons. Yetfor the man from Mars it has surely been the year of the mouse.

On the face of it, the election of a Labour Government after 18 years of the Tories is a shattering change in the economic firmament. Yet when you look at what they have done, you can hardly see the joins. True, Labour has raised taxes - marginally. But it has not delivered the blitz on the incomes of high earners that many previous sufferers feared. The much-heralded windfall tax on the privatised utilities came and went without much fuss. The most striking tax measure has been the abolition of tax credits on dividends - though this continues a move first made by the Conservatives. Likewise, the erosion of mortgage interest tax relief

The year of the bull or the mouse

هكذامن الإمل

On broader economic themes, it has also been more of the same. Fears of renationalisation? Forget it. The new Government will probably privatise even more. Meanwhile the new Labour policy of charging university students tuition fees looks as though it

comes straight out of the Thatcher handbook, while the subjects of single mothers, welfare reform and the work ethic make the Prime Minister sound like a caring version of Norman Tebbit. On the treacherous ground of our relations with Europe, the Government has tried hard to strike a fresh pose, but the stark reality of Britain's European predicament, which is no respecter of party political boundaries, keeps breaking through. After weeks of disastrous spin-doctoring on the subject of EMU during the sum-

duced an excellent document outlining five tests to determine her Britain was ready to join EMU. But this amounted to an elegant and well-argued reformulation of the hoary doctrine that we should only join "when the time is ripe" or, putting it another way, "Major was right after all".

There are two distinctive economic policies but they have yet to be tested. Evidently, the introduction of the minimum wage is going to be much trickier than its advocates envisaged. The jury is out on Welfare to Work, although it is already clear that the vigorous economic recovery is doing more for jobs than any of the Govern-ment's prospective sticks and carrots ever could. There has been one momentous measure, namely the decision to give the Bank of



interest rates. Even this, though, represents a further evolution of the approach taken by the Conservatives since 1992.

The lack of sharp policy change has been reflected in financial markets. At the beginning of the year, private investors' concerns about the future centred on the prospective election. Shouldn't

they be selling their shares/gilts/ property/the pound sterling before the impending collapse? No. 1 said. You are not the only ones to have noticed that we are likely to have a Labour government and the markets will already have priced in the very same fears which trouble you. Moreover, these fears are likely to be unjustified, in which case asset prices will rise

It tempts the gods to say this. but so it has proved. The FISE index of share prices began the year at just over 4,100. On election day four months later it stood at 4,445. Since then it has climbed above 5,200 and, even after Friday's weakness, still stands above 5,000. Ten-year gilt yields began the year at 7½ per cent and fell to just over 7 per cent by election day. Today they are down to 64 per cent. Having begun the year at just over 2.60 against the mark.

and risen to 2.79 by election day, the pound now trades close to 2.95. Property prices, both residential and commercial, have continued to rise all year. So much for the Labour bear market. For all that, 1997 has seen two

economic developments that will have a major influence on our future, though neither has anything to do with the change of Government. Back in January, there seemed to be a good chance that EMU would be postponed, and there were indeed several wobbles along the road to the euro. But we have all had to come to terms with the idea that EMU is probably going to start on time.

The second major change is the gathering storm in the East. which threatens to darken the economic skies here also. At the beginning the year, commercial com-

would boast about the extent of their involvement in Asian markets. Recently, it has become fashionable for the same people to try to give reassurance by saying how small their involvement is a change of posture which they may live to regret.

Partly because of such external developments, the talk of a run-away British boom which was so common in the first half of the year, has given way to talk of sharp slowdown. Elsewhere in the world, the danger of rampant inflation has been replaced by worry about deliation.

It is these factors, and not something over which the Chancellor has direct control, which are likely to determine how British asset prices behave over the year ahead. As regards my views, by now you should know the score. The bull markets in shares, houses and the pound are drawing to a close. By contrast, the gilt market's love affair with the Labour Government has only just

Scotia shares set to fall after key drug is rejected

BY MARTIN BARROW

SHARES of Scotia Holdings are expected to fall heavily after UK health authorities rejec-ted the biotechnology company's appeal for approval of one of its most important drugs.

The Medicines Control

Agency has turned down Scotia's appeal for approval of its drug Tarabetic for treatment of diabetic neuropathy, the nerve damage suffered by

The regulatory setback was announced late on Friday after the formal stock market close. But already Scotia shares had fallen 272p to 3172p and analysts expect Scotia's beleaguered investors to sell heavily

again today.

Scotia, based in Stirling, was formerly one of Britain's most promising biotechnology companies and enjoyed a high stock market rating. But it has suffered a series of setbacks this year, including in the abrupt departure of David



Horrobin, the founder, as chief executive earlier this month. Sherri Clarkson, his wife and head of the drug discovery division, also left the

company.

The MCA, which advises the Health Minister, originally said in March that it was unable to approve Tarabetic, a drug based on evening prim-

stockbroker, had forecast annual sales of almost £90 Horrobin: abrupt departure

ning its hopes on its pro-gramme for a second generation of diabetes drugs, including a new compound for diabetic impotence being de-veloped with Germany's Asta Medica. There is also interest in Scotia's new appetite suppressing product, an ileal break emulsion based on natural oils, which reduces the desire for food and could prove a big hit with dieters. But there is likely to be concern in the City about Scotia's ability to fund this development after the Tarabetic setback.

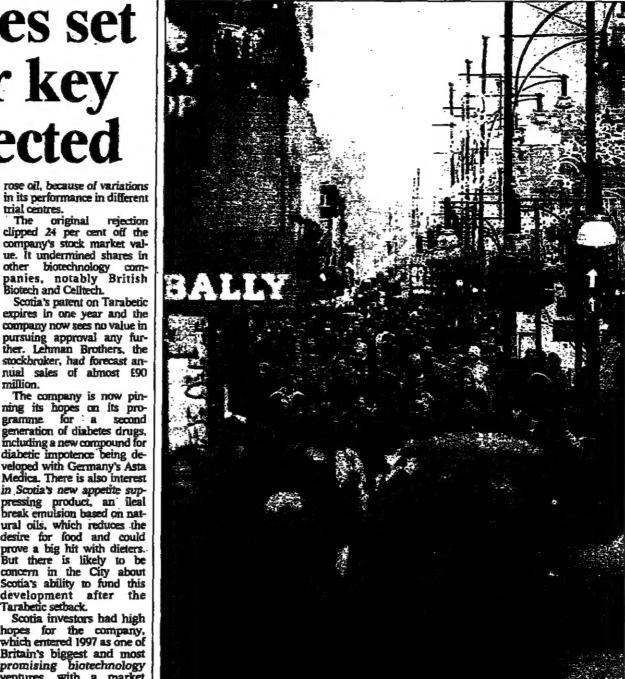
trial centres.

Biotech and Celltech.

The

Scotia investors had high hopes for the company, which entered 1997 as one of Britain's biggest and most promising biotechnology ventures, with a market capitalisation of almost £600 million. But since then the shares have slumped from

making a profit. Losses were £19 million before tax in 1996 and £11.8 million in 1995.



Trading has been slow even though centres, such as Oxford Street, are crowded

Retailers look to last-minute shoppers

BY MARIAN VE CURPHEY

BRITAIN'S retailers are pinning hopes of a recovery in December sales on the last three shopping days before Christmas, amid forecasts that they may be left with up to £3 billion of unsold stock.

Trading in the high street was slower than expected last week and many stores and shops have already begun discounting in an attempt to woo shoppers.

A report published today forecasts spending in the Jan-uary sales on non-food products to be as high as £6.7 billion, equivalent to 9 per cent more than January 1997.

Shopkeepers say that much of the £20 billion windfall money from building society conversions has already been spent on large electrical goods and holidays rather than Christmas. The exception is the North East, where the Northern Rock Building Society floated in October and where many of the 900,000 qualifying members received

an average £2,000 each.

John Bryson, general manager of the Metro Centre in Gateshead, said: "The average total Christmas spend for from £55 in September and £70 last Christmas to £97 this

The Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) forecast up to £3 billion of stock in the nonfood sector would be carried over into the January sales. Douglas McWilliams of the CEBR said that five interest rate rises since May, tax increases and uncertainty on the stock market since the autumn had damped down trading activity.

Pru close to buying Arndale from P&O

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

PRUDENTIAL Corporation is on the brink of buying the Manchester Arndale Centre, the country's biggest city shopping centre, from P&O for more than £300 million. The deal, which will add Arndale to Prudential's existing £7 billion commercial property portfolio, could be announced today and will be finalised before Christmas.

P&O is in the process of a shake-up instigated by Lord Sterling of Plaistow and Sir Bruce MacPhail, his managing director.

About 85 per cent of Prudential's portfolio is held in the form of stocks and shares, while 5 per cent - or E7 billion - is invested in

The insurer, the biggest name in UK life and pensions. aiready owns the Burlington Arcade in London's Piccadilly and Minister Court in the City of London. It owns 20 shopping centres around the country including the Arndale in

Both companies declined to comment, but City sources say P&O will announce the sale imminently.

The sale of the Arndale which was badly damaged in the IRA bomb in Manchester last year, had also attracted interest from Donald Gor-don's Capital Shopping Centres, which owns Gateshead's MetroCentre and Lakeside, Thurrock, in Essex.

Lord Sterling had originally promised shareholders he would sell a net £500 million of property to reduce P&O's debts. However, the Arndale sale will take the total disposal proceeds to more than £600

Capital poised to tune in to Melody bidding

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor CAPITAL, the radio and

restaurant group recently thwarted in its attempt to merge with Virgin Radio, is standing by to enter the bidding for Lord Hanson's London radio station Melody FM. Capital is still waiting anx-ionsly to hear the verdict of Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, on the Virgin deal even though its plans were torpedoed by Chris Evans and his Ginger

Capital wants to know whether it would have been able to acquire more radio stations in the London area. But it is also anxious to know whether the Monopolies and Mergers Commission accepted its argument that its market in London should be defined as being much

broader than just radio.

Capital has already indicated informally to Lord Hanson that it is interested but will not submit an indicative bid until it receives the

The report is expected in early January, in good time for the final round of bids for Melody in mid-January. All

the main commercial radio companies are believed to have expressed an interest in Melody, which started out as virtually Lord Hanson's private playlist of easy listening but has long since broadened out into a profit-able station specialising in "melodic" popular music. At the moment Scottish

Radio Holdings and Emap are strong contenders, al-though GWR, owner of Clas-sic FM, is also in the field. NRJ the French radio group that has so far failed to win a radio licence in the UK is also believed to be interested. Scottish, in particular,

must have an edge. Lord Gordon, the founder of Scottish, although he has stood down from day-to-day opera-tions at the company, helped to set up Melody for Lord Hanson in 1989.

The intense competition and fact that there are no new FM licences on offer for London could drive the price of Melody above £25 million.



ENERGY groups will this week be positioning themselves for a wave of corporate activity in the sector after last Priday's approval of the £3.6 billion takeover of The Energy

Group.
The decision had been keenly awaited, especially by Power-Gen, the generator, as an important marker of government policy in energy. With Labour voicing no fears over vertical integration over The Energy Group, which has generating and distribution inter-

quickly renew its bid for The Energy Group. Market speculation believes it could mount a 730p a share offer, compared with the 690p a share it has already made.

The bid lapsed when the takeover was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade. Her wholehearted endorsement of the Monopolies and Mergers report, which raised no issues of public interest, comes as the Government is attempting to

A wave of activity in the electricity industry is expected to be accelerated by the keenness of distribution and supply companies to separate those functions and merge them either with generators or

other supply businesses. They are increasingly looking at such options in an effort to reduce costs as competition in the domestic market begins.

Competition will operate on thin margins and electricity companies will also face national rivals such as British Gas, which is mounting an aggressive campaign to sell

The sale is part of Lord ests, the approval has been Hanson's move towards being a focused building taken as a signal that further integration will be approved. save the coal industry and determine its long-term future Pacificorp is expected to materials group.

Dickensian bosses blight Christmas

TUC highlights seasonal exploitation and bad practice

Monks: demand for fairness

EMPLOYEES across Britain are facing a bleak" Christmas from bad bosses, the While the TUC says that many com-

panies in the UK treat their staff fairly. there is a "rough end to life at work in Britain today", with many employees working gruelling hours in dangerous environments, sometimes for poverty wages and often for "builying" bosses.

The TUC today publishes the results of calls to its recently opened telephone hotline. It offers employees the opportunity in confidence to detail bad practices at work. Of 5,000 calls received, the TUC discloses that a third were from people in white collar jobs, and one in four was a manager or professional, complaining of individual bullying bosses and "exploitative" corporate policies. Bullying topped the list of

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

complaints, with four in ten calls relating to bullying at work - half of them from men. Cases included staff being made to stand in the corner of an office wearing a dunce's hat, throwing things at employees and direct sexual harassment of women.

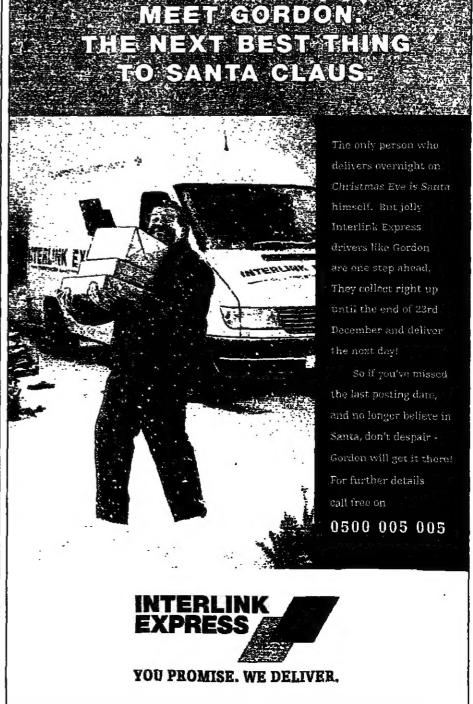
A quarter of all calls complained of low pay. Some said they were earning as little as £1 an hour, and more than two in five are earning £2.50 an hour or less. Cases include a Liverpool security guard working 12-hour shifts for £2.97 an hour; his

worksite charges 12p for a teabag.

Another key area of complaint was changes to contracts, with one firm cited as "cancelling" Christmas, only allowing staff to take Christmas Day and Boxing Day off as part of their annual leave entitlement. A security guard is getting his first Christmas holiday in six years.

John Monks, TUC General Secretary, says today: "The technology and the jobs may have changed, but workplace relations can come straight from the pages of Dickens." He says that many of the bad bosses' practices are a legacy of the 1980s: "Job insecurity, increased pressure at work and the widespread perception that the balance of power at work had swung too far in the direction of the bad boss were important ingredients in the Conservatives' election defeat."

The TUC says the "clear demand for fairness at work" has not gone away since the election. The unions, which met Tony Blair last week to discuss a range of issues, believe that some of the abuses will be remedied by legislation, including a minimum wage, union recognition and limits on working time.





Landing in the luxury of the economists' playground

American econoon the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, hasn't hung out with central bankers or long but she has swiftly perfected their brand of infuriating discretion.

Asked in an interview with The Times whether she regards herself as a hawk or a dove on interest rates, she answers: "I don't think that hawks and doves are very useful categories except for hirds." That is central bankerspeak for "I am not going to tell you whether I opposed arguments for a further interest rate rise at the December meeting of the MPC".

But, at the end of the interview. Dr Julius clearly felt that she would like to place herself a little more specifically in the spectrum of opinion represented on the MPC. She couldn't quite bring herself to categorise herself as a dove but did. ever so carefully, say: "I am more optimistic than some about the productive potential of the British economy.

To the non-economist, this broadly means that she believes that the economy may be efficient enough nowadays to expand for longer without igniting inflation. In the current interest rate debate, it probably means that she is opposed to yet another touch on the monetary brakes and is prepared to wait and see whether signs of a slowdown in growth become more frequent as the impact of Janet Bush meets the woman who is thought to represent the real world at the Bank of England



The Bank of England could well bear dissent if MPC members do start to disagree

successive rises in interest rates continues to be felt. But she didn't, of course, say that, Dr Julius comes to her work on the MPC with a heavy burden of expectation, no

because she is a foreigner and the only woman on the committee, but because she is the only member to have firsthand experience of business in the private sector, having served as chief economist for Shell and British Airways.

The other members of the MPC appointed from outside the Bank are steeped either in the City or in academic economics. So Dr Julius, a quietly spoken but steely woman.

finds herself the great white hope of those who see the new committee, with its outside appointees, as a way of breaking the monopoly of perceived monetary hardliners at the Bank and ensuring that the real economy - and industry would gain a champion.

Dr Julius politely declined to comment on whether any member of the MPC argued for a further rate rise at December's meeting, having signed up unanimously to a quarter-point rise in November. But she acknowledged that the policy debate has become more contentious as the economy appears to be nearing a turning point.

She said: "The evidence

could be read either way either that the economy has a full head of steam behind it and is therefore likely to keep moving for a considerable time before it slows, or that this quarter, last quarter, next quarter, will turn out to have been the peak of the cycle in terms of the growth rate. It is a

difficult one to call." She believes that the policies are in place, including a tight fiscal policy, successive rises in interest rates since May and a strong exchange rate, to induce a slowdown in economic growth next year. On balance, she believes that there is some evidence now that the deceleration in growth is starting, but the question remains how substantial that slowdown is likely to be and whether it is enough to damp down infla-

Along with other members of the MPC, and the Chancellor himself, Dr Julius is wor-

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

tionary pressures.

US dollar

1.6690 (+0.0163)

German mark

2.9518 (+0.0212)

Exchange index

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

104.5 (+0.8)

FT 30 share

3228.7 (-6.9)

FTSE 100

5020.2 (-25.0)

New York Dow Jones 7756.29 (-82.01) Tokyo Nikkei Avge

15314.89 (-589.41)

ried about wages. She is keeping a hawk's eye on the spring wage round and, on the night before she spoke to The Times, she had visited a group of Home Countres business men whose main complaint was the difficulty in hiring

The danger of wage inflation is clearly a live issue in the MPC, as it is in the US Federal Reserve. A comparison between the two is tempting. Alan Greenspan, Fed Chairman, has been widely credited with pursuing a "suck it and see" policy of allowing the economy to go on growing and creating jobs, even at low rates of unemployment which in the past had caused inflation, until concrete signs of inflation emerge. He has been far less hawkish on interest rates than many private economists had expected him to be.

Dr Julius seems to share some of Mr Greenspan's instinct of letting the economy breathe. She believes that it is in the late stages of economic recovery that business really starts to look for efficiency gains as they run up against capacity constraints.

"It is when you get into this phase of a sustained upswing that you do get some of the positive dynamics beginning to take place. That is when you get firms really looking at how to improve productivity because they have been constrained. That is when you get people being pulled back into the labour force who are a little more difficult to employ, who have been out of work a long time, who are young and have no experience, disabled peo-

want to choke off the positive benefits which, in a dynamic sense, you only get when the economy is beginning to ap-proach some of its limits."

That, for all those people scared that Gordon Brown

had handed power over interest rates to a bunch of "inflation nutters" at the Bank of England, is a very welcome emphasis. It might even have a tinge of dovishness about it. What are the chances of an

MPC member or two breaking ranks on an interest rate decision in the weeks ahead? Or Julius doesn't think much of the theory that, in its early days as the MPC builds up credibility, there is an inbuilt bias towards unanimity. The key will be perceptions of the economy, but group dynamics clearly play a role.

The process will be strengthened if we, as a committee, have a strong decision-making ability and respect for each other's view and that probably means that one doesn't dissent lightly or cavalierly and I don't think any of us are into

"There isn't any particular pressure to dissent. On the other hand, I think we are a group of quite strong-minded individuals and, if and when one or more of us feels that the decision of the majority is moving towards a wrong decision, there will certainly be dissent." Watch this space.

So is Dr Julius enjoying what must be a dramatic change of scene, swapping the cut and thrust of British Airways for the old-style civility of the Bank of England? She answers as a typical economist, less concerned with cultural differences than with the detail of her work. The biggest change, she says, is concentrating purely on the British economy rather than the global market.

But she clearly likes being a full-time boffin, spending her time debating with other boffins in a wonderful economists' playground.

"There is a very good technical staff here, there is very interesting economic work being done and that means that much of my time is spent delving into the intricacies of the econometric models. That is very different from being the only, or one of a very small number of economists, working in business," she said.

To delve into all those things that you are really quite interested in, with very good people to do a lot of the work,



A boys in blue panto

ITV, 8.00pm

The normally serious business of thief-taking is shunted to the sidelines as the Sun Hill precinct puts on a Christmas panto in this one-hour special. Expect shouts of "Behind you" and "Oh no you don't as well as the amusing spectacle of the butch hour done is as managing dames. Will Pr. Pane boys done up as pantomime dames. Will PC Page, Aladdin's director and probable candidate for a nervous breakdown, be able to find a replacement for a sick Widow Twanky? Will she be able to stop the two halves of the pantomime cow from coming to blows and will she be able to find a suitable venue in time for opening night? But this being Sun Hill, crime is never far away. Apart from a turkey-thieving Santa, there's a vengeful man who is out to hurt DI Deakin (Shaun Scott).

Christmas TV Dinners

Channel 4, 8.30pm If the eco-warriors had need of a chef it would be Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. Certainly he has chosen two very untraditional and alternative Christmas feasts to feature in this special. One of 40 Christmas feasts to feature in this special. One of them is an alfresco number in the company of 40 travellers who use whatever they can find to aid their festive meal. They use spare wood for a roaring bonfire on which they cook colourful kebabs; rosemary twigs for flavoursome skewers and a traffic cone passes as a mould for a profizerole mountain. The other meal is a 12-course affair prefaced by a naked swim in the icy Norfolk sea for three close friends. Stuffed giant carp and fresh langoustine served on a huge fir tree branch feature in this gastronomic marathon, which is evidently enjoyed by the increasingly "relaxed" families.

Equinox Moscow, We Have a Problem

Channel 4, 9.00pm Heralded as a world exclusive. Equinox talks to the British-born astronaut Michael Foale about the 140 days he spent on board the disaster-prone Russian space station Mir. Ham radio recordings of france messages to ground control, personal testimonies and on-board footage bear witness to the series of nerve-racking events that nearly ended in tragedy. We learn that Mir suffered an



Festive cooking alfresco (C4, 8.30pm)

inprecedented 1,500 malfunctions in 1997 but since it was never meant to be operative beyond 1991, this is hardly surprising. Foale has returned to Britain to spend Christmas with his family and talks to Equinor about his single-minded determination to become an astronaut — an ambition he achieved when he became the second Briton in space in 1992 and the first to walk in space in 1995, observing with repically British understatement, "God, it's high!"

BBC2, II.15pm Phil Cornwell and John Sessions test out a range of their impressions and party pieces in this ten-part series of ten-minute silliness. The idea is that famous people from stage and screen have holed up as neighbours in a respectable street in Surbiton and get up to all sorts of ordinariness in the process. It is just a jolly good excuse for the two to take off, with varying degrees of success, the likes of Michael Caine, Jack Nicholson (both excellent), David Bowie, Jimmy Hill (?), Dirk Bogarde, Joe Pesci and Al Pacino, not forgetting Mick and Keef who have retired from a life of rock arroll to run the corner shop. There is also Mrs Phil Cornwell and John Sessions test out a range of niroll to run the corner shop. There is also Mrs Huggett (Sessions in old lady drag) who is cleaner and confidante to the stars. Side-splittingly funny it is not, but vaguely amusing in the way that an average college revue would be. Peter Richardson of the Comic Strip directs. Frances Lass

The mournful strains of a violin over the sound of a

train pounding along the tracks introduce this dramatisation, by Martin Jameson, of the Janusz-Korczak story about a boy who becomes a king in a fictional Eastern European country. Nominally, there are two stories, the one about the boy king being told to children on a train journey whose

purpose remains unclear for a long time. The story of the boy, King Matt, is interwoven with that of the children on the train and the device is

extremely effective, especially at the point where the train arrives at its destination and the true

purpose of the children's journey becomes clear. Mait is played with great conviction by Jonathan

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: The Christmes Party 7.30 The Virtiage Chart Show 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Marter for Debate 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Founders of their Faith 9.30 Westway Access 9.45 Sports

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11.30 Jazzametazz 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business
Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Seven Days 12.45 Sports
Roundup 1.00 Newshotz 200 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30
Dotions 3.00 World News, (548 only) News in German 3.05
Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway Access 3.30 The Boy George
Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Seven Days 4.30 The World Today;
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(648 only) News in German 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Just a Minute, News in German (648 only) 7.00

News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Multitrack Hit List 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 British Today 9.30 Northern Lights 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News

The Monday Play: King Matt Radio 4, 7.45pm

RADIO CHOICE

Classic Comedy: The Goon Show Radio 2, 3.00pm

BBC radio is sometimes accused of spending too much time on nostalgia trips (about as often as it is accused of not spending enough) but this could hardly be a better week for daily repeats of The Goon Show, now more than 40 years old. Younger listeners will need to be told at once that today's programme. The Case of the Missing CD Plates, has nothing to do with recorded music. I doubt that it has much to do with the Corps Diplomatique, either, for the Goons—Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers, Michael Bentine and Harry Secombe—created a world in which the surreal was commonplace. This was ground-breaking comedy and it informed much of what came later, from Monty Python to The Fast Show.

RADIO 1

6,30em Chris Moytes 2.00 Simon Mayo 12,00 Jo Whiley. Includies 12.30pm Newsbeal 3.00 Cave Paerce 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session Pub Cruz 8.30 Live Music Update 8.40 Andy Kenshaw 10,30 Mary Anne Hobbs' Breezeblock Special 1.00em Charite Jordan 4.00 Cilve Warren

6,00am Alex Lester 7,30 Wake Up to Wogan 9,30 Ken Bruca 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Turower 3.00 Classic Comedy: The Goon Show, See Choice (r) 3.30 Flichtard Allinson 5.95 John Dunn 7.00 Des O'Connor with a Christmas Audience 8.00 Chris Berber at Christmas. Recorded at the Rep

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00mm The Breaklast Programme 9.00 Gary Robertson 12.00 Middley with Mar 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Sportstrack, Music and sporting memories from 1963 8.00 The Monday Match, Winbladon V Arsenal, 10.00 News Talk with Nick Robinson 11.00 Ne Extra 11.30 Tales of the Turf. The disappearance of Shergar (f) 12.00 After Hours 2.00ems Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00em Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evens 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (MW) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Home 4.00 Mark Forrest 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (MW) Carnin Jones 10.00 Lynn Parsons 2.00em Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

8.30am Paul Roes and Carol McGiffin 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dealey 7.00 Anna Raebum 9.00 Steve Hamilton 1.00am Andy Wint

11.05 Outlook 11.30 Multigrack Hit Lst 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Westway 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Seven Days 1.45 Sense and Sensibilities 2.00 Newsday 2.30 On Screen 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Civilization 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM 6.00mm Alan Mann, Includes the Trumper Alarm Call and Breakfast Baroque 9.00 Henry Kelly, Includes carols by the chairboys of New College, Oxford Plus Hall of Fame Hour. Record of the Week and a recipe for sweet rice with saftron and crange rind stuffing 1,00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2,00 Concerto Brahms (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat) 3,00 Jamel Crick 8,30 Newsnight 7,00 Smooth Classics et Seven with John Brunning 8,00 Evening Concert Arvo Part (Magnificat); Used (The Christmas Tree), Gorechi (Szerolia Woda); Schulz (The Christmas Story) 10,00 Michael Mappin (Aliculus at 11,35 Noctume 2,00em Concerto (r) 3,00 Mark 4". Griffithe

6.00em On Akr, with Stephanie Hughes, including Grieg (Holberg Suite); Dvořák (Romance in Fminor): Beethoven (Overture The Ruins of Athens); Warlock (Capriol Suite); Rossini (Overture La Ceneranida); Stravirsky (Three Movements from Petrushka); (Maurizio Polini, plano)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday.
C P.E. Bach (Symphorry in D); Strauss (Don Juan); Mccart (String Cunter in D)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Verdi (Overture Nabucco); Gurney (Severn Meadows); Praetorius (Singt und Kingt); Mczart (Serenade in C minor); Stephen Gibson (Sprit of Youth); Schubert (Shepherd on the Rock); Beethoven (Symphony No 7 in A); Anon (There is no Rose)
12.00 Composers of Weelc British Light Music
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Kathryn Stot, plano. Includes Brahms (Plano Sonata in Fminor, Op 5, No 3); Chopin (Nocturnes in B flet, Op 9 No 3; in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 1); Lapunov (Transcendental Study No 10 in B minor) (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Matthias (Dance Overture); Mozert (Violin Concerto No 5 in A); under Tadaald Otaka, Joji Hattori, violin Copland (Stute Bity the Kid); under Grant Llewellyn; Tchaikovsky (Swan Lake, excerpts), under Tadaald Otaka
3.55 Nursery Notions: Humpty Dumpty. The tirst of live programmes about nursery rhymes
4.00 Clementi and Beethoven. Malcoim Binns performs Clement (Plano Sonata in E flat)

5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

4.46 Turns of the Century. Another chance to hear the series celebrating great comedy performers Today, Roy Hudd looks at Max Miller's career (r)
5.00 in Repertory. The Times opera critic Rodney Milnes talk to Iteana Colrubas about the role of Violetta in Verdi's La Traviata, using the recording she made with the Bavarian State Opera Chorus and Orchestra, under Carlos Kleiber (r)
6.00 Chatthert Songbook. A Christmas selection of highlights from this year's series (r)
6.15 in Columny Churches. Romsey Abbey, Hampshire Adrian Jack visits one of England's great Norman churches, with a foundation dating back to 907

back to 907

7.00 Performance on 3. To celebrate the bicentenary of Donizetti's birth, Gordon Stewar introduces a performance of Elisabetta given last week at the Festival Hati, London, by the Royal Opera. With Andrea Rost, soprano, Leah-Marian Jones. mezzo, Giuseppe Sabbatini, lenor, Robin Leggate, benor, and Alessandro Cortselli, beritone, Royal

tenor, and Alessandro Corbelli, baritone, Royal Opera Chorus and Orchestra under Carlo Rizzi 9.45 Postscript: Christmas Day, All this week. Paul Durcan reads his book-length poem (1/5) 10.00 Voices: My Kind of Song — Victoria Wood. The singer and comedian talks to lain Burnside about her favourite songs and singers 10.45 Mibding it, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall 11.30 Composer of the Waste Sannel Protection.

11.30 Composer of the Week: Sergel Prokofley (Sounding the Century) (r) 12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fainweather 1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Srieting 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for a Day 8.45
The Nation's Favourile Poems 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with the Times columnist Melvyn Bragg and guests 10.00 (FM) News; Dear Diary. Julian Clary records his thoughts as he tours Britain with his current correct edizavacanza (6/8)

comedy extravegenza (6/6) 10.00 (LW) News; Delty Service 10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Gaothrey Wheeler 10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Murray 11.30 Money Box Live. The latest personal finance news with Vincent Duggleby 12.00 News: You and Yours. Consumer news and

12.00 News; Tou and Tours. Consumer news and current affairs with Mark Whitaker

12.25pm Wildbrain. Lional Kelleway presents the final of the natural history outz at Rutland Water, the home of the Braish Birdwalching Fair 12.55

1.00 The World at One, with Alex Brodie 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Hand in Glove. The final episode of

2.00 News; Hand in Glove, he mail episode of Sephen Muline's period drama. With Michael Perceval-Maxwell and Billy Boyd

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News; 4.05 Keleldoscope. Lynne Walker sees a new tourng production of West Side Story, currently in Birmingham, and Manchester Royal Exchange's new presentation of Noel Coward's Present Lauriter

Present Laughter
4.45 Short Story: The Nightingale and the Rose, by
Oscar Wide, read by John Moffatt

5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 News Quiz of the Year, The first of two programmes in which Simon Hoggart presents a selection of highlights from the first half of the News Quiz year (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Food Programme. Derek Cooper meets some of the thousands of people who make the traditional Christmas dinner possible (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: King Matt, by Janus Korczał With Cilve Rusself, Rusself Dwon and Malcolm Hebrian Cae Christma

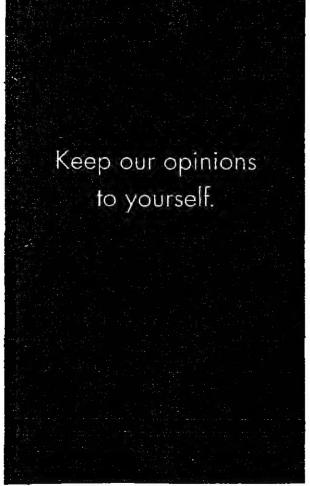
Hebden, See Choice Better Than Sect Second-Hand Pleasures, by

9.15 Better Than Set: Second-Hand Pleasures, by
Jeanette Winterson (4/4) (r)
9.30 Kaleldoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedfitne: Playback, by Raymond
Chandler, sbridged by Robert Dodds (1/10) (r)
11.00 Consider the Butterfly, by Particia Hannah With
Vivienne Ditton and Jan Rayers
11.30 (FM) Death on the Nile, Michael Bekewel's
dramatisation of the Ametra Christia power West.

(PM) Death on the rine, whates between 5 dramatisation of the Agetha Christia novel. With John Moffet and Donald Sinden (4/5) (r) 11.30 (LW) An Elf at Christmas, with Dawid Sedans 11.40 (LW) Today in Parliament. A roundup of the day's events at Westminster

12.00 News; 12.30am The Late Book: Christmasth at the End of the Road, Written and read by Tom Bodett (1/5)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4. 94.5; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12,45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102. VIRIGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane



It's all very well to say share and share alike, but in all honesty wouldn't you prefer to enjoy at leisure your own copy of the Times Educational Supplement? The FE Focus section, in particular, really does deserve much more than a rushed flick through in the staffroom. So for opinions worth taking the time to listen to, buy your awn copy, take it home and keep it to yourself. **BEFOCUS**

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THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 39

(a) The former name of Tokyo, used sattributively to designate

domestic form in Europe."

materials, etc. originating there (before 1868, in which year the name was changed). "Yeddo crepe, a cotton fabric thick as linen but soft, Yeddo poplin. of pure llama wool, resembling French merine

(a) The name of an island in the Western Isles, used to designate a small, brownish, short-tailed sheep. Ovis aries, belonging to a variety once restricted to the island. The Suzy sheep is the most primitive

(b) A fragrant white or yellow polyanthus narcissus. Narcissus lazella, native to the Mediterranean, or any of the numerous varieties developed from it. In Italian lazzella means a little

cup. The rising sun lighted a green plain covered with tazetta

(a) A form of whistled Spanish used by the inhabitants of Gomera in the Canary Islands, in order to communicate across long distances. In Spanish, it means a whistle or whistling. "In the Spanish Civil War, military signals were on occasion cast in Silbo, but there were Gomerans on both sides and so the measure-contermeasure drama

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1... Qxd7! 2 Rxd7 Rbi+ and mates

المكذا من الذعل

Tales of showmen and their many women

هكذا من الإمل

n Saturday night it was still possible to pretend that you know what is not coming. A bit of judicious work with the remote control and you could steer your way through the evening without catching even a glimpse of tinsel. Instead we could concentrate on the serious things in life, such as Busby Berkeley and Hughie Green, two men who shared a passion for showbusiness and pretty girls and whose biographical profiles were scheduled, rather deliciously, to run back-to-

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back on BBC2. Some of the links were obvious. Despite enjoying their primes some 30 years apart and on opposite sides of the Atlantic, both were deeply rooted in foot-tappin'. vandeville tradition. Berkeley's parents, we learnt in Going Through The Roof, an orthodox biography with almost as many co-producers as Berkeley had fairly extraordinary-sounding fu-dancers, were both actors. Green, neral. I wanted to know more

Green was the godson of the legendary music-hall comedian Harry Tate. For anybody under the age of 45, that's "legendary" in its rarely used form meaning never heard of im.

You would have to be under five and/or living in a deep cave, however, not to have heard of his godson over the past fortnight. I wondered how the whole Paula Yates imbroglio would be ac-knowledged in a film purporting to be about Green's career. It took less than a minute to discover that it wasn't so much being acknowledged by Mike Connolly, the director, as embraced. The intake of breath nearly sucked the altar in," said one, recalling how Noel Botham's extraordinary address was received at Green's already

on the other hand, according to Paul Merton's narration to the less conventional The Works: Hughle about the vicar who filled in the gaps with gags. Was he guided by the voice of God or the sound of opportunity knocking?

I also wanted to know more about Green than his womanising. Cramming all this controversy into half an hour left little time for the early years of his career when - at about the same time as Berkeley was making 42nd Street - Green was becoming a theatrical impresario at the age of 12. The legendary Harry Tate had clearly done his godfatherly stuff.

Berkeley's, reputation survived its trial by television slightly better, helped by the fact that all his women and heavy drinking happened a long time ago and by the fact that American film historians earnestly discussing the phallic symbolism of his dance routines made me laugh ... until we got to Carmen Miranda's bananas, anyway. But



Matthew Bond

it was also helped by the fact that, unlike Green's career, which never recovered from the plug being pulled on Opportunity Knocks in 1978. Berkeley's did bounce back from embittered obscurity, to renewed fashionability and a face-swing deal to put his name to the saving deal to put his name to the Broadway production of No. No. Nanette in the 1960s. So at least one of them left us smiling. Nothing about last night's

smiling, but as I developed an Kirwan's nose - which is a rare almost physical allergy to the and beautiful thing. series some time ago, that wasn't too surprising. From the moment Eamonn's turkey waddled into Father Clifford's cottage, I knew that the seasonal festivities could be postponed no longer.

It's not just the antiquity of the live Christmas turkey gag I object to ("Could you kill a turkey, Brendan?" "Only in self-defence, Father") it's the double standards. How can people get all hot and bothered about EastEnders' portrayal of rural Irish life when the Irish Government subsidises a series that depicts its people as a bunch of semi-literate chancers, never happier than when they are dealing in smoke-damaged or smuggled goods . . except when they're sitting in the pub, drinking. Until somebody explains that to me, I've found the only way I can get through an episode is by

Ballykissangel (BBCI) left me concentrating hard on Dervia

quickly discovered that the only way I was going to get through The Perfect Blue (BBC2) was to put all thoughts of Four Weddings and a Funeral as far from mind as possible. Not easy when our star-crossed, multicultural couple meet, with their respective mismatched partners. at a wedding fashion show. I kept waiting for Andie McDowell to come out of the changing room in her Bo Peep outlit.

For a little while I thought either Nick Collins, the writer, or Kieron J. Walsh, the director, was trying to make some clever point about romantic film cliches, but after the umpteenth of these - was it the awkward "what have we done" sitting-up-in-bed scene or the endlessly rehearsed "there's some-thing I must tell you" speech? - I wearied of that theory. This was an old-fashioned romance embracing old-fashioned cliché: nothing wrong with that as long as you believe in the underlying love story. But I didn't for a minute.

This, I think, was because Collins writes better lines, for women than for-men: good news for Inday Bay and Ruth Gemmell and unfortunate for Philip Glenister, who could do nothing with dialogue that suggested he'd be doing well to have even one woman fall in love with him.

Finally the ghost of Christmases and, indeed, funerals past returned in the shape of Simon Callow and A Christmas Dickens (BBC2). This, I should stress, is an acquired taste, with Callow giving a bravura performance as Dickens and Dickens taking the Dickens of a long time to make his satirical point. Still, it has its charm and the Victorian parlour audience over-act divertingly.

BBC1

6.00em Business Breekfast (35613) 7.00 BBC Breekfast News (1) (38209) 9.00 Thef's Entertainment! (1974) Choice moments from some of the great MGM rousicels; (Part 2 is tornorrow) (T)

11.05 The Traditions of Christmas Portreit of Charles Dickens (T) (40984) 11.10 Champion Children Awards 1997 Highlights from last month's ceremony (1822938)

12.00 Last of the Summer Wine (1) (1) (62551) 12.30pm Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook (r).

1.00 News (1) and weather (39396) 1.30 Regional News (17113754) 1.40 The Weather Show (86944613) 1.45 Neighbours (T) (40530808) 2.10 Petrocelli Crima chama, with Barry

Newman (r) (1722358) 3.00 Vets in Practice (r) (1) (1209) 3.30 Playdays (7470822) 3.50 Enchanted Lands (8940551) 4.00 Bodger and Badger (7301342) 4.15 Nosh's Island (3091209) 4.40 Goosebumps (6515445) 5.00 Newsround (T) (4484223) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (6998071)

5.35 Neighboure (r) (T) (787735) 6.00 News (T) and weather (445) 6.30 Regional News (975)

7.00 This is Your Life Presented by Michael 7.30 Here and Novr. Shopping for Free Chris Choi goes undercover to see how one of Britain's largest shopping centres copes with Christmas shoplifters (1) (209)

8.00 EastEnders Paggy's announcement spells disappointment for Tillary, while Kathy is the bearer of bad tidings for Pat (1) (2938)

update on the year's cases, including beby Faith Hampson, born with a dephragmatic hemia, and Thomas Foster, knocked down white crossing the

9.00 News (T) and weather (3025) 9.30 Hotel The Adelphi staff prepare for the annual Beetles Convention; 326 stranded run-seakers also check in. Last in series (1) (86629)

10.00 Death Train (1993) with Place Brosnen. A mercanary is hired to transport a nuclear device across Europe and deliver It to Seddam Hussein. Directed by David Jackson (T) (616919)

11.40 Carry On Don't Lose Your Heed (1965) Send-up of the Scartet Pimpernel story, with Sid James leading the regular team as an aristocrat who masquerades as the Slack Fingernal to save noblemen from execution during the French Revolution. Directed by Gerald Thomas (1) (287735) 1.05am The Phentons of Hellywood (1974)
with Jack Cessidy. A masked monster
goes on the rampage against highpowered executives who are planning to
set the discribed film studio his calls.

Directed by Gene Levilt (9235548) 2.15 Wedther (9952174) 2.26 BBC News 24

Past and the Video PlusCodes The burshess next the video Programme Infograms Video PlusCode "numbers, which slide you to programme your video records instantly with a Video PlusCode for the programme you with to-record. Videoplus+ (**), Pluscode (**) and Video Programmer we trackeneries of Geoster Development Ltd.

BBC2

7.15cm Teletubbles (r) (2133822) 7.40 Crville and Cuddles (r) (5894464) 7.45 Juniper Jungle (r) (5884087) 7.58 Yalday Duck (r) (6919990) 8.15 Blue Peter (r) (T) (9882193) 8.40 Henry and the Hendersons (r) (T) (6640759) 9.05 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest (r) (T) (1924551) 9.30 Sweet Velley High (r) (9027938) 9.55 Pingu (r) (7788209) 10.00 Teletubbles (81281)

10:30 The Water Bables (1978) Live-action and animation adaptation of the classic children's tale. Directed by Lionel Jeffries

Pallol children's tale. Directed by Lionel Jettries (1) (20629).

12.00 A Giff for Heldi (1958) with Sandy per Descher. Children's tale Inspired by Johanna Spyri's classic novel (7506342).

1.10pm The Greedysaurus Geng (33626280) 1.15 Heiry Jeremy (33625551) 1.20 A River Somewhere. Last in series (23133826) 1.50 The Natural World (r) (1) (9867342) 2.40 Navis (7526990) 2.45 Call My Butil (832613). 3.15 Close-Up on James

(832613) 3.15 Close-Up on Jernes Stewart (7220377) 3.25 News; (2317498) 3.30 How the West Was Wen (1962) Episodic western starring Jernes Stewart, John Wayne, Gregory Pack, Henry Fonda and Debbie Reynolds. Directed by John Ford, Herry Hathaway and George Marshall (353174) 6.00 The Simpsons (T) (881551)

6.20 Bettlester Galactics (r) (1) (454808) 7.15 Close-Up on James Stewart Writer Armistead Maupin and director David 7,30 A Christman Dickens Simon Callow as

Dickens recelle his Immortal creation Mrs Gemp (T).(551) 8.00 Top Gear: The TVR Story (T) (3290) 8.30 The Antiques Show Christmes Special Children's toys of days gone by a guide to table decorations and



Medcap comedy quiz (9.00pm)

9.00 Shooting Stairs Mark Owen, Louise, Melvyn Hayes and Lorralne Kelly Join team captains Utrika Jonsson and Mark Laman for a Christmas adition of the surreal quiz (T) (1687)

9.30 The Fast Show (T) (14241) 10.00 All Rice for Julian Clary (T) (61822) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (992777)

Stella Street Spoof soep set in leady suburble inhabited by the stars (T) (693667) 11.25 Vertigo (1958) Classic psychological thriller directed by Alfred Hischcock and starring James Stewert and Kim Novek (1) (56070445)

1.30mm Rope (1948) with James Stewart, John Dall, Farley Granger and Sir Cedric Hardwicke. Two college students murder a friend purely to see if they can commit the periect crime. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock (3663304) 2.50 Weather (3135762)

6.00mm GMTV (2429396) 9.25 Treesure Seekers (1/4) (r) (T) (1922193) 9.55 News (1) and weather (7775735)

10.00 Regional News (8900193) 10.05 Mumile's White Christmas (7784483) 10.30 Monthles with a Community (7/64-65)
10.30 Monthles on Division Street (1991)
with Fred Savage and Hume Cronyn. A friendship develops between a wealthy man and an elderly vagrant. Directed by

George Kaczender (97267025) 12.20pm Regional News (9166716) 12.55 Dinosaurs (2117648) 1.30 Pinky and the Brain (83532)

2.00 Alice in Wonderland (1951) Disney animated version of Lewis Carroll's adventure (1) (2202975) 3.20 News (T) regional news and weather (1862303)

3.35 Police Academy II: Their First
Assignment (1985) with Stave
Gutterberg and Bubba Smith, Captain
Lessard takes on six raw recruits fresh from the Police Academy to best the crimeweve in his practical. Directed by Jerry Paris (1) (3522939)

5.05 Tellding Telephone Numbers (3945261) 5.40 Noves (T) and weather (857613) 6.00 The Baldy Man (704938) 6,25 Regional Weather (680919) 5.30 Wales Tonight (i) and weather (193)

7.00 Michael Barrymore's Strike it Rich 7.30 Coronation Street Chris plays the Good Samaritan (T) (377)



Panto time at Sun Hill (8,00pm)

The Bill: Twanky An extended edition of the police drame series (1) (2071)

9.00 Pretty Woman (1990) Romantic cornedy with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere. With Julia Hopers and market stops when a wealthy corporate reider stops and asks a beautiful prostitute for directions, he decides to hire her to be his companion for a week. Directed by Garry Marshell (1) (42643919)

11.10 News (T) and weather (308087) 11.25 Regional News (671445)

11.35 Gramins (1984) with Zach Galligan and Phoebe Cates. Comedy honor about a cute little creature which gets wet when it shouldn't and spawns a horde of victous monsters. Directed by Joe Dante (T).

1,35am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club An alternative film and video guide (5590410) 2.05 Football Extra with Gebriel Clark (5151588)

3.05 A Christmas Concert from Winche (r) (829236) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (17656)

5.30 Bugs Bunny Special (6185965) 5.55 News (6188052)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.30 Surprise Chets (2117648) 6.00 24 Hours (613)

6.30-7.00 Central News (193) 1.35am Football Extra (6955323) 2,35 Film: Sword of the Vallant (1983). A

fantasy adventure starring Miles O'Keele, Sean Connery and Trevor Howard. Directed by Stephen Weeks (135149) 4.20 Film: Mr Muggs Rides Again (1945, b/w). A Bowery Boys cornedy directed by Wallace Fox (9015588)

TO THE STREET, WHITE STREET, WAS

5,25 Cybernet (3533859)

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 illuminations (9166716) 12.55-1.30 The Eff Who Saved Christman

6,00-7.00 Westcountry Live (92280)

As HTV West except 12.55-1.30 Shortland Street (2117648) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (613) 5.30-7.00 Seven Days Special (193) 3.05 Film: Tom Horn (829236) 5.00am Look and Cook (17656)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglie Air Watch (9178551) 12.55-1.30 What's My Line? (2117648) 6.29 Anglia Weather (680919) 6.30-7.00 Anglia News (193)

Starte: 6.00em Sesame Street (24551) 7.00 The Babysitters' Club (9283174) 7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (8598938) 8.00 The Big Braskfast (51782) 10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8908735) 10.01 Happy Days (83629)

10.30 The Secret World of Alex Mack (8443025)11.05 Moesha (8547532) 11.30 The Monkees (4700) 12.00 Eerie, Indiana (55261)

12.30pm Montel Williams (82803) 1.00 Stot Meithrin (50227990) 1.15 MINT (50222445) 1.30 Frances Bissell's West Country Christmes (81174)

2.00 Reging Planet (84358) 3.00 Film: The Homecoming (83867826) 4.50 Fresh Pop (7603938) 5.00 5 Pump (9946464) 5.15 Anturisethau Jini Me (6084280)

5.40 Crefyddau'r Byd Hanimelddio (951483) 6.00 Newyddion (195782) 6.10 Heno (735280) 7.00 Carolau o Langollen (7193) 8,00 Rhyw Fath O Fuenas (5648)

8,30 Hewyddion (7483) 9.00 Equinox (3377) 10.00 Sporio (3906939) 11.05 Garej Nadolig (682551) 11.15 The Real Holiday Show (441990)

11.45 The American Football Big Metch 1.05am Film: Zolten, Hound of Dracula

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Secome Street (24551) 7.00 The Dam Sesarue Street (24551) 7.00 The Babysitters' Club (r) (T) (9283174) 7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (r) (8598938) 8.00 The Big Breakfast (51782) 10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8908735) 10.01 Happy Days (r) (4291957) 10.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack (r) (1434174) 11.05 Moesha (r) (8547532) 11.30 The Monkees (4700) 12.00 Earle, Indiana (r) (55281)

12.30pm Light Lunch (r) (T) (85829) 1.30 Frances Bissell's West Country Christmes Vegetable terrine (1/3) (81174)

2.00 The Homecoming (1971) with Patricia
Neal and Richard Thomas. The family film
which served as a pilot for *The Waltons*.
Directed by Fielder Cook (T) (600071) 3.50 Beau Brummet (1954) with Stewart Granger as the Regency dandy and Peter Ustinov as the Prince of Weles. Directed

by Curtis Bernhardt (T) (588990) 5.50 Ant and Dec's Georgie Christmes Festive tun aboard a boat, with guests Peter Andre, Aled Jones and Jos Pasquale (T) (759939)

6.30 Holtycaks Dawn's family alm to give her a very special Christmas. Clindy goes into labour (1) (735) 7.00 Channel 4 News (1) (6700) 7.30 Tom Keeting on Painters The notorious artist and restorer examines the work of Titian and paints Tarquin and Lucretia (r)

(T) (919) 8.00 Pet Rescue Christmas Special from the RSCPA centre at Great Ayton,

Yorkshire (T) (5648) Christmas TV Dinners Hugh Feamley-Whitingstell joins the lestive preparations for two sumptuous Christmas feasts: a 12course meet and an open-air feast for 40 prepared in a caravan (1) (7483)



9.00 Equinoc Moscow, We a Problem British-born astronaut Michael Foale reveals, for the first time, details of what went wrong

during his 140 days in space aboard the Pussian space station Mir (T) (3377) 10.00 Near Dark (1987) with Adrian Pasdar. Chiller about a Midwestern farmboy who becomes involved with a gang of travelling vampires. Directed by Kathryn

Bigelow (450280) 11.45 The American Football Big Match

1.05am Zoltan, Hound of Dracula (1978) with Reggie Neider. Dracula's dog is brought back from the dead and joins forces with a half-vampire. Together they travel from Transylvania to New York in search of the Count's last true (285762)

2.40 Springhill (5141675) 3.40 Football Italia (r) (57537830)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Fraquencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10,92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 Mffz.

6.00am 5 News Early (4127483) 7.30 WideWorld: Fragile Planet Woodland that has existed for hundreds of years

8.00 Havakazzoo (r) (8750349) 8.30 Adventuras of the Bush Petrol (3605290) 9.00 Espresso (r) (7961735)

10.00 Hospital Live Update Kirsly Young revisits two young patients who received treatment earlier this year at Guy's Hospital kidney unit (9201434)

11.00 Leeze (3245396) 11.50 Double Espresso (90801667) 12.65 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (5506826) 12.30pm Family Affairé (r) (1) (1427532) 1.00 5 News Update (88769622) 1.05 Sunsat Beach (T) (4010754) 2.00 5's Company

(3215532) 3.30 One Christmes (1995) with Henry Winkler, T.J. Lowither and Katharine Hepburn. A young boy spends Christmes with the drunken father he's never met. Directed by Torry Bill (9414648) 5.20 5's Company — Late Extra (56771629)

5.30 Whittle (4683396) 6.00 100 Per Cent (4680209)



Party time for the girls (6.30pm)

5.30 Family Affairs Claire is very disappointed by the lack of birthday presents (T) (4664261)

7.00 Exclusive (5032174) 7.30 Empire of the Elephants: Little Game Etosha National Park, Namibia (4660445) 8.00 Period Rooms A 1960s living room

(5041822) 8.30 5 News (5037829) 9.00 The Sweeney: One of Your Own starring John Thew and Dennis Waterman. Carter spends a night behind

bers (8608025) 10.00 The Cornedy Network Stand-up comedy with Jenny Eclair, Jim Tavaré and Stawart Lee (4150385)

10.30 Tibs and Fibs Irreverent medical quiz (8855993) 11.00 The Jack Docherty Show Late night chat and comedy (5849754)

11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H (6926396) 12.45em Live and Danperous Soorts magazine hosted by Dominik Diamond and Shelley Webb (24034526)

3.45 Asian Football Show (5784859) 4.35 The Streets of San Francisco (T) (5689897) #. .. 5.30 100 Per Cent (7848472)

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

8.00m Morning Glory (846829) 9.00 Hotel (9422) 16.00 Amother World (53990) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (73754) 12.00 Oprah Wirdey (23774) 1.00pan Geratio (32822) 2.00 Sety Jean Robbes (36822) 3.00 Jeans Jones (2358) 4.90 Oprah Wirdey (4479) 5.00 Star Treit: Volyager (345) 6.00 Star Treit: Volyager (345) 6.00 Star Treit: Volyager (3474) 7.30 Fee Right (3077) 8.00 Star Treit: Days Space Nice (8445) 9.00 Potterpeist: The Legicy (8420) 10.00 Star Treit: Oprah (1507) 18200 Jean (1579) 12.00 Late Show (51014) 1.00em in the Heat of the Night (4897) 2.00 Long Fley (6837526) SKY BOY (15850) SKY BOX OFFICE

Stey's pay pay whow movie chargines. To view any firm telephone 0990 800688. Each firm costs \$2590 per viewing SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26)

The Gilletter Man (1996) SKY SCA OFFICE 2 (Transporces 60) Jangle All the Way (1996) SIV SOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) The Flist Wives Club (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Tossponder 58) The Long Kles Goodslots (1996) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1 6.00m Family Piet (1976) (18648) 8.00 Migsby Morphin Power Famgers (1995) (20174) 10.00 Moppet Treasure Intend (1985) (1145393) 11.45. Three Trex (1985) (114739) 1.15pm The Public Eye (1972) (186716) 2.25. Migsby Morphin Power Famgers (1995) (704071) 4.45. Histories (1985) (196483) 6.35 Migsby Morphin Power Famgers (1995) (704071) 4.45. Histories (1985) (1995) (8310754) 9.00 Treasure Intended (1996) (8310754) 9.00 Tank Gld (1896) (83452025) 10.45 The Introduct Steep (1995) (8771352) 12.25mm The Glack und the Dand (1995) (8772832) 12.25mm The Glack und the Dand (1995) (877283)

(57529) 2.15 Paulie (1965) (97626) 4.60 Shoe Diarles No.5: Hight of Abendon (1995) (46743) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 6.00mm transformant: The Movie (1996) (19290; 8.00 Mpg Hichard and the Critisatus; (1960) (287/6) 10.00 Prolyadicus; (1960) 16025; 12.00 Prolyadicus; (1960) 16025; 12.00 Paymant; op Damand (1961) (1967) 2.20pm; That (1960) (1961) (1969) 4.00 Project: Air (1960) (1961) 6.00

Prohysteriel 3 (1996) (96223) 8.00 The Angel of Pennsylvacia Avenue (1997) (98071) 10.03 The Junor (1996) (577295) 12.05am Copycal (1996) (53808085) 2.10 Dr. Jetyff and Ma. Hyde (1994) (580014) 2.45 When the Dark Man Calife (1995) (528230) 5.15 Joe at the Kingdom of the Auts (1973) (4855656) started 2 (1995) (96223) 8.00 The SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Superman # (1980) (9812551) 8.00 Big (1988) (4861358) 8.00 The Karata Kid (1984) (486803) 10.00 Tren-ora (1980) (981735) 11.40 Fright Night # (1988) (7494280) 1.25em Bloodhounds of Broadway (1986) (51280438) 2.56 Big desen (5.50472) 4.55 Cose

9.00pm Meet Me In St Louis (1944) (86583377) 11.00 The Chemp (1979) (78527369) 1.70pm Tervice with My Aust (1972) (14690101) 3.00 Meet Me In St Louis (1944) (80937656) 6.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00sm Spenish Primers Liga (98529) 9.00
Recing News (98777) 9.20 Aembics (47377) 19.00 Footbell Special (73025)
11.30 World Sport Special (76716) 12.00
Aerobics (14557) 12.30pis V-Max (41931)
1.00 Footbell Special (40025) 2.30 (cs. Hockey, Newcastle Cobras V Bracknell
Beas (459342) 5.00 Wrestling (1829) 6.00
Sports Centra (4025) 6.30 Football League
Review (5377) 7.00 Wirrbladon v Assersi — Sports Centre (4025) 6.30 Foot Review (5377) 7.00 Wirmbledon Finitew (5377) 7.00 Wimbledon v Asserts Live (4727464) - 10.30; Sports - Centre (28700) 11.00 Solling (70303) 12.00 Foot-bill (11410) 2.00em Sports Centre (2023) 2.30 Footbell Lesque Fevicer (70893) 3.00 Sports Centre (20255) 3.30 Close

7.00em Aerobics (9577998) 7.30 Windsurling (955645) 8.00 Recing News (5219700, 8.30 Pool (3194713) 11.30 Footbell League Review (2200938) 1.00pm Sports Unlimited Review (2290928) 1.00pm Sports Unimed (7371919) 2.00 World Sport Special (2879919) 2.30 Windourling (6574396) 3.00 (2978319) 2.30 Windsuffing ((5)74391) 3.00 Sponish Primera Liga (489843) 5.00 Futbol Mundlet (2880071) 5.30 Football League Pleview (6472994) 6.00 Windsuffing (6575025) 6.30. V-Mext (6598377) 7.00 Sports Centre (2573735) 7.30 World Motor Sport (6459735) 10.30 V-Mext (5302464) 11.00 Rostfold League Review (925093) 11.30 Squash (485735) 12.30em Sports Centre (1673265) 1.00 Salling Picals (214502) 2.80 Close

12.00pm Estrame Sport (22340819) 12.30 World of Saling (81290261) 1.00 Golf: Salis Chellenge (87600483) 3.00 NFL American Footbell (78648857) 7.00 Febt IV Footbell (100motor) (56463700) 8.00 Saling: Melayel enge Finals (56552848) 9.00 Intel (73mhathan (5646984) 10.00 EUROSPORT ...

7.30sm Saling (20808) 8.00 Stding (9280800) 8.40 Stding; Ment's World Cup Stalom — Live (6417025) 10.00 Steinurping (68183) 11.30 Stding; Ment's World Cup Stalom — Live (6134087) 12.45 pea Biddhion (7051489) 2.90 FFA Confederations Cup Final (51272) 4.00 Steing (94725) 5.00 Sturring (9025) 6.00 Tractor Pulling (44280) 7.00 Speachworld Megazine (56589) 8.30 Showlumping: Olympia International Champtonship — Live (1962342) 9.45 Eurogoele (747193) 11.30 Boding: Modre v Cus (77241) 12.30 am Close UK GOLD

UK GOLD

7.00em Bullerye (4204019) 7.35 Neighbours (491794) 8.00 Croscroed(2195793) 8.25 EastEnders (8702358) 8.00
The Bill (890716) 9.30 Howards Wey (8211559) 10.00 Blees This House (1388918) 10.30 The Sullivers (8827700) 11.00 Boon (8603008) 12.00 Croscroeds (46081551) 12.35 EastEnders (2922648) 1.30 in Schmass and in Health (4117657) 2.10 Open All Hours (8467209) 2.50 Am You Being Served? (9172700) 3.30 The Bill (5064990) 4.05 Morecambe and Wise (1784822) 5.06 EastEnders (190551) 5.00 Bob's Full House (5132994) 8.30 In Schmess and in Health (9901731) 7.00 Oad's Army (6184261) 7.40 Am You Being Served? (832061) 7.40 Am You Being Served? (832061) 7.40 Am You Being Served? (832061) 7.40 Am You Being Served? (8320613) 8.20 Optim All Hours Served? (8320813) 8.20 Open Ali Hours (7498367) 9.30 The St. (1623813) 9.30 Keeping Up Appearances (95943071) 10,45 Yes, Minister (5452551) 11.25 Paul Merton: The Series (3768445) 12,00 Be-tween the Lines (96752938)

GRANADA PLUS 8.00em The Box (8904174) 7.00 Coronation St (622922) 7.30 Parinties (6330654) 8.00 Blind Date (6954483) 9.00 Within These Walls (4896754) 10.00 Donafum (6336548) 11.00 Hart to Hart (624384)



The Good Guys (7805822) 3.00 Donahue (7059464) 4.00 Mession: Impossible (7979071) 5.00 Hewell File-O (3823377) 6.00 Families (719993) 6.30 Coronaton St (7170990) 7.00 Bind Date (1335241) 8.00 Hert to Hart (6581349) 9.00 Coronetion St (7077463) 9.30 Hale and Pace (224202) 18.00 Hawaii Five-O (2785792) 11.00 Clos CARLTON SELECT (CABLE) 5.00pm Gridlock (64730241) 5,30 Hey Ded || (26536803) 6.00-Blockmustern (26532710) 6.30 A Country Precipe (2656386) 7.00 Get Back (84416435) 7.30 Pull the Other One (28545280) 6.00 Block of a Feether

Special (99081999) 1.30 London Bridge (14831290) 9.00 Chencer (56547716) 10.00 Soldier, Soldier (56540803) 11.00 S Elstwoere (8426 6990) 12.00 Put the Other One (63530666) 12.30mm Tules of the CIBS (\$4845472) 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL 4.00mm Society Street 7.00 The Little Alarmeid 7.30 Cueck, Pack 8.00 Stand Spanting New Doug "Double" 8.00 Night-mere Nad 9.30 Gargoyles 19.00 Recess 19.15 Pepper Ann 10.30 Smart Gay 11.00 Boy Merit World 11.30 Berbary Love 12.00 The Wonder Years 12.90pm Home Improvement 1.00 FILM: Emant Ricios Again 2.30 Winnie the Pook 2.45 Holy-wood Hound's Chestmas 3.15 Timon and Pumbes 3.30 Recess 3.45 Gargo/es 4.15 Recess 3.00 Smart Guy 8.30 Student Bodies 8.00 Boy Meets World 8.30 Home Davis aut 10.00 Close FOX KIDS NETWORK

\$.00mm Daily and His Friends 6.30 Billy the Carl 7.00 Prouchlo 7.20 Power Rengers Zeo 8.00 Big Bard Beetleborgs 8.30 Masked Pider 9.00 Ace Venture 9.30 Casper 10.00 The Tick 10.30 Incredible Hulk 11.00 Bureau of Alien Detectors 11.20 Phenican 2040 12.00 Spicierran 12.30pm Life with Louis 1,00 The Mouse and the Monser LOUIS 1.30 THE MOUSE and the Monster 1,20 C Burr and Jamel 2.00 End Strangstras 2.30 Power Pangers Zeo 3.00 Big Bed Beetsborgs 3.30 Medied Rider 4.00 Aco Vertura 4.30 Casper 5.90 Teck Tick 5.30 X Mon 6.00 Spiderman 6.30 Sweet Valley High 7.00 Classe

TCC 6.00mm Happily Ever After 6.20 Booley's World 7.00 Spinou 7.30 Dennis (ne Menace

8.00 Baiman 8.30 Baiman 9.00 Earthworm 8.00 Batman 8.30 Batman 9.00 Earthworm Jrm 9.30 Romueld the Reindeer 9.45 Romueld the Reindeer 10.00 Oscar's Ordrestre 10.30 Resh Gordon 11.00 Znogoud 11.30 Regentor 12.00 Spirou 12.30pcs Sonic 1.00 Batmen 1.30 Air's Time Travellers 2.00 Znogoud 2.30 Resh Gordon 3.00 Sonic 3.30 Earthworm Jrs 4.00 Donnis the Menace 4.30 Batman CARTOON NETWORK All your tavourite centoons broadcast from 5.00mm to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON 6.00mm Hey Arnold 1.00 The Sacret World of Alex Mack 1.30 Clarisca Explains It All 2.00 The Adventures of Pate and Peta 2.20 Kabland 2.00 Bally Kipper's POV 3.30 Capatol Cetters 4.00 Juniory 4.30 Rugnats 5.00 Sister Saster 5.30 Kenan and Kel 8.00

TROUBLE 12.00pes Swen's Crossing 12.30 Ready or Nor 1.00 Mackson 1.30 Callonnia Desens 2.00 Seved by the Ball 2.30 Swen's Crossing 3.00 No Naked Flames 3.00 Ready or Not 4.00 Seved by the Bell 4.30 USA High 5.00 Hengtime 5.30 California Desente 6.00 TX Six 6.30 Medison 7.00 Hengtims 7.30 LSA Helph 8.00 Cincs Hancetme 7.30 USA High 8.00 Close CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Cross Wits 5.30 Move on Up 6.00 Family Fortunes 6.30 Catchphrese 7.15 The \$64,000 Question 8.00 Split Second 8.30 Karacke Chatenge 9.15 Winner Take AJ 10,00 Treasure Hunt 11.15 Karaole Challenge 12.00 Say the Word 12.30am Hart to Hart 1.30 The Big Valley 2.30 National Geographic Explorer 3.30 Where I Live 4.00 Jingle Bell Rep 4.70 Allen's First Christmas 5.00 Screenshop BRAYO

8.00pm The A-Teem (4670071) 9.00 Tour of Duty (4763735) 10.00 Fed Stop Denet (8917377) 10.30 talen Stropting House-wives (2407731) 10.45 Fil.Mr. Intent to KM (1992) (70687434) 12.35em Leste Netson's Unicianaed World (1976875) Neison's Unbalanced World (1978875) 12.45 Tour of Duty (1032217) 1.45 Red Shoe Deletes (\$551899) 2.15 Italian Shipping Housewises (\$0710323) 2.30 Fillat Cyfer Tractaer 2 (1995) 2336945 4.30 Family Dog (2987007) 5.00 Starsky and Hutch (4204149)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Grace Under Fire (9700) 7.30 Roseanne (2803) 8.00 Elen (9648) 8.30 Cybill (1483) 9.00 Cheers (86183) 9.30 Tad (98071) 10.00 Fraster (18822) 10.30 The Kenny Eveneti Show (28342) 11.00 Still n Bed with MeDynner (98836) 11.30 Elen (70193) 12.00 Roseanne (81694) 12.30mh Molistand (29217) 1.00 Span (34043) 1.30 Sed with Mejuriner (1898s) 11-30 She (1701s) 12-30mn Mejuriner (1899s) 12-30mn Mejuristand (42217) 1.00 Scep (34043) 1.30 Tax (47410) 2.00 Sel in Bed with Mejuriner (189878) 2.30 Grace Under Fire (89095) 3.00 Praster (28987) 3.30 The Kenny Everett Show (21965) 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL L00pm Sightings (3875290) 9.00 Roswell: Cover-Los and Close Encounters (3885377) 11,00 Findey the 13th (6187735) 12,00 Sightings (2762744) 1,00em The Twilight Zone (388897) 1,30 Teles of its Unespected (3104507) 2,00 Dark Shadows

(7226978) 2.30 New Alfred Hitchcoo (7205385) 3.00 Findey the 13th (9004217) HOME & LEISURE 9.00mm The Painted House 9.30 Grahem Kerr 10.00 Gerdeners' Diary 10.30 Penod Rooms 11.90 Two's Country Cooking 11.30 Cratwice 12.00 Garden Club Christmas Special 12.30pm Sweet Things 1.00 Crativise 1.30 Christmes Cooking In the Kitchen 2.00 The Painted House 2.30 Yan Can Cook 3.00 New Yankee Wortshop

DISCOVERY 4.00cm Bush Tucker Man (3687613) 4.30 Flightline (3789025) 5.00 Ancient Weniors (8907483) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (3770377) 5.00 Mysteries of the Ocean Wanderers (821735) 7.80 billowedy News (899,6019) 7.90 Dishster (3780754) 8.00 Unterned Amazonia (4756445) 9.00 Betty's Voyage (4759532) 11.00 Wings (8842613) 12.00 Lotus Elles: Project M1:11 (3791101) 1.00em Disaster (3437746) 1.30 Discovery laws (9675743) 2.00 Cinc

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Explorer (8649025) 8.00 Mothers of the Wild Part Time (8625445) 9.00 Colorado River Ackenture (8545209) 10.00 Wild Country, Wild Horses (8648396) 11.00 American Trackster (5862716) 12.00 Explor-er (2427694) 1.00mm Class

TRAVEL (CABLE)

Diary 1,30 Relivey Adventures Across Europe 2.00 Reel World 2.30 On the Road to the Islands 2,00 Holiday International 4,00 Cities of the World 4,90 Greg's World 5,00 Aspects of Life 5,30 The Ocean World THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Artome (3118714) 5.00 The Stebers (2972006) 8.00 Ancient Mysteries (7384483) 7.00 Biography: Field Marshell Even Rommel (2374071) 8.00 Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE) 12.00per Food Network Daily 12.30 The Green Gourme; 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Twelve Chells of Christmas 2.00 Frances Network Daily 3.00 Surprise Chefs 3.30 Graham Kerr's Kitchen 4.00 Can'i Stand the Heat 4.30 Planet Nosh 5.00 Close

LIVING 6.00am Tiny Living 9.06 Lesley's Christmas Countdown 9.30 The Gordon Ellott Show 10.10 Jany Springer 11.00 The Young and the Restless 11.55 Brookelde 12.25pm Jany's 1.00 Cheap Chic 1.30 Ready, Standy, Cook 2.05 Hart to Hart 3.00 Could & Be a Marchi? 4.10 Jany Springer 5.00 Robinds 5.50 Cheap Chr. 6.20 Ready, Steady, Cook 7.00 Rescue 911 7.20 Mystens, Magic and Miracles 8.00 Jeny Springer 9.00 FILLE! Theixes and Louise 11,00 The Sex Zone 12.00 Close

ZEE TV 7.00cm Jasgran 7.30 Ru Ba Ru 8.00 ZEE Business Show 8.30 Ashaa 9.00 FRLM-Guteway of India 11.30 Margarita 12.00 Perampera 12.30pm Daraar 1.00 Hindi FRLM: Maralmhe 4.00 fits Pe 80c 4.30 Udan Choo 5.00 Pop Korn 6.30 Dence Maria 6.00 Higi Panch 6.30 Mast Mast Show 7.00 You Zinckig 7.30 If is My Choice 8.00 News and Euronews 8.30 Salash 8.00 News and Euronews 8.30 Salesto 9.00 Hind FILM: Askna 12.00 Close

VII-1



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY DECEMBER 22 1997

Rising level of pay deals adds to interest rate worries

INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

WAGE settlements in Britain are accelerating rapidly, according to industry evidence published today. raising fears of increasing inflation

and a further rise in interest rates. Pay deals in both manufacturing and the service sector are rising. new findings from the Confedera-

tion of British Industry show. The Government is braced for a

rise in earnings as pre-Christmas bonuses — especially in the City — down price pressures. The CBI's feed through into the average earnings index, pushing it up from the stable level shown in official figures last week.

But in advance of that, the latest reports from the CBI's pay databank showing increasing wage settlements will prompt concern in business, the City and Whitehall of consequent pressure on inflation, and of the subsequent need for a furregular tracking of pay settlements shows that pay deals in manufacturing averaged 3.4 per cent in the three months to November.

This is sharply up on the 3 per cent average for the three-month period to the end of August, and on the same period a year ago.

One in two manufacturers says that cost of living increases are an important upward pressure on

business of widespread if patchy skill shortages are reflected in 20 per cent of manufacturing firms emphasising the need to recruit and retain staff as a factor pushing

up pay deals.
But a third of manufacturers say their inability to raise prices in tough competitive markets is help-ing to keep down pay deals, while low profit levels are also a downward pressure in one in four deals. in pay settlements in manufacturing, given the pressure from the strong pound. But they recognise that the level of pay deals is also rising in the service sector.

The databank shows that in services, wage settlements in the three months to November averaged 4.4 per cent - significantly up on the 3.9 per cent in the previous quarter, and on the same period last year. While CBI leaders say service sector pay awards, with more than a third of deals still in the 2.5-3.5 per cent pay band, other deals are coming in higher, with 17 per cent in the 4.5-5.5 per cent range, and 13 per cent at more than

5.5 per cent. The CBI suggests that the rises largely reflect the buoyancy of the business services sector in areas such as financial services and information technology. The rise in pay deals is pushing down productivity growth, the CBI shows, with manufacturing productivity falling from 3.1 to 2.9 per cent, and forecast productivity growth falling too.

Kate Barker, CBI chief economist, said business was concerned about rising pay deals, though the CBI still wants interest rates to be kept on hold. She said the labour market was "behaving a good deal better than it was last time round at this stage in the cycle".

IMF reduces forecast for world growth

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

THE International Monetary Fund yesterday predicted doom and gloom for the world economy in the light of the Asian financial crisis and revised its worldwide economic growth forecast for 1998 downwards from 4.3 per cent to 3.5 per cent.

According to the IMF, the so-called "Asian contagion" will worsen in months to come. In its interim World Economic Outlook, it greatly reduced growth forecasts for the region. Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines are now expected to grow 1.7 per cent on average rather than the previous forecast of 3.7 per cent. South Korea was adjusted to 2.5 per cent, down from 6 per cent. The Japanese growth forecast was almost

halved to 1.1 per cent. Western countries will not escape the fallout from this worsening situation, said Michael Mussa, the IMF chief economist. Economic growth

will slow down significantly in the US and the US trade deficit is expected to increase by 29 per cent to \$230 billion (£140 billion).

The 1998 growth forecast for the US was cut from 24 per cent to 1.4 per cent. This year the US economy grew 3.8 per cent. Britain and the rest of Europe will see its growth slow down by only 0.1 per cent to 2.7 per cent because it is less dependent on Asian trade.

The report said: "The repercussions in regional and global financial markets have proven much deeper and more extensive than seemed likely only a few months ago. The economic implications can now be expected to be more serious.

In the wake of the recent bank failures, mass bankruptcies, currency crises and stock market plunges, the IMF is expecting a wave of unemployment in Asia, which had enjoyed continuous economic

CROSSWORD

No 1283

8 Instruction book (6)

15 Of current interest (7)

16 Uncanny: ghostlike (6)

18 Exalted (5)

20 Hooded snake (5)

21 Short-tempered (5)

14 Solid carbon dioxide (3,3)

growth for over 20 years. Mr Mussa said: The type of slowdowns we are going to see in South-East Asia will be decidedly negative. Undoubt-edly, people will feel the pain of adjustment." Some economists predict that one million people will lose their jobs in

The LMF gave warning that its revised forecasts could still be too optimistic. The report is based on the assumption that the Asian economies will rebound in late 1998, after the same pattern as the Mexican crisis in 1995. Growth took off again there in 1996 after a deep but brief recession.

South Korea alone.

To follow this example, the Asian governments would have to implement the right policies, Mr Mussa said. There was still a risk that they would delay painful reform measures such as raising interest rates to support their currencies and restrain domestic demand to reduce trade

He said: "The major source of uncertainty is how long this turmoil will go on for and whether additional will get pulled in."

He told investors not to be

decrived by the extraordinarily good performance of world stock markets over the past few years. He said: "When economic conditions remain generally good and when private foreign capital is flowing at a record pace and on very attractive terms, it is easy to believe that the good times will



Forward looking: Martin Taylor, left, and Andrew Buston, chairman, expect banking marriages between "consenting adults"

Banks to consolidate, says Taylor

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT UK's biggest clearing bank, would claim nearly one in two but added that "there were personal bank accounts and BARCLAYS BANK has put on hold its ambitious plan for a other fish in the sea".

£37 billion merger with NatWest, its high street rival, after its initial approsoundly rejected. Amid persistent speculation

idea" of a merger to create the

that Barclays may launch a hostile bid, Martin Taylor, chief executive, has told The Times that the marriage of two large banks has to be between "consenting adults". Mr Taylor acknowledged that NatWest's senior management had "given no sign of being interested in the

considerable cost savings and give the new group critical mass in a market "throbbing" with new entrants. Nor does Mr Taylor believe that competition obstacles to a merger with NatWest would

Nevertheless, the Barclays

vinced of the business sense

behind such a deal. Merging

the two banks' high street

operations would result in

insurmountable, even

though the combined banks

dive remains con

more than 50 per cent of the business banking market.

The Government has be quite happy to see new banks. created, so it should expect to see some go. I have never believed in national champions. but I believe in promoting efficiency by having the right size of business," he said. There are far too many banks in Europe. When the euro comes, there will be a single European payments system and that's going to drive a single European banking system. That in turn will drive considerable consolidation." Mr Taylor believes the £35 billion merger of Union Bank

Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation, announced a fortnight ago, marks the start of a wage of rationalisation

across the Continent.

Nativest, whose chairman Lord Accounder of Weedon is said to be under pressure from institutions to step down early. has rejected two other merger approaches this year, from Abbey National, the former building society, and Pruden-tial, the UK's biggest insurer.

De Beers gloomy over prospects

DE BEERS, the South African group that dominates world trade in uncut diamonds, is expected to paint a gloomy picture of prospects when it releases 1997 sales figures

Publication of the figures was put back from last Thursday - prompting fears in the market that some unexpected setback has emerged. Outlook for 1998 is thought to be giving cause for concern.

Financial turmoil in South-East Asia - principally Thailand and South Korea - is taking its toll of luxury goods

Analysts forecast 1997 De Beers diamond sales of about \$4.6 billion — well below last year's record \$4.8 billion. The figures will mark the debut for the new De Beers management team, led by Nicky Oppenheimer and Gary Raife. who assume the posts of chairman and managing director respectively of De Beers from January I.

They move across from the equivalent roles at the Central Selling Organisation (CSO), the De Beers controlled marketing cartel that manages the supply of most of the world's

uncut diamonds. The CSO reported sales of \$2.88 billion in the first half of 1997, a rise of 4.8 ner cent on the same period last year. America, which accounts for about a third of world retail jewellery sales, was experienc- 🍣

ing growth of about 7 per cent. Japan, with 28 per cent of the market, was flat, and banking collapses and financial strife are likely to have further dampened demand. De Beers says prospects hinge heavily on an improvement in

Restructuring takes off at BAA

- ACROSS Relief road (6)
- 4 First OT prophet (alpha order) (4) 9 Firework: lamooon (5)
- 10 Atomic pile (7) 11 Bedding plant; may give
- Abel oil (7)
- 12 Ruined, reversed (5)
- 13 Trustworthiness (11)
- 17 Parrot name, his history, H
- 19 Pool (for scooping) (7)
- 22 One in responsible post (7)
- 23 County (abbr.): sort of fizz (5) 24 Up-and-down toy (2-2)
- 25 Defective (b)

SOLUTION TO NO 1282 ACROSS: 1 Sift 3 Labrador 9 Eerie 10 Fanatie 11 Pointer 12 Wick 14 Slight 16 Plough 18 Jazz 19 Hanover 22 Initial 23 Cello 24 Sanctity 25 Read DOWN: 1 Sheepish 2 Fortification 4 Afford 5 Renewal 6 De Tocqueville 7 Ruck 8 Vent 13 Sherwood 15 Hazlitt 17 Chalet 20 Neck 21 Bias

SOLUTION TO THE TIMES TWO CHRISTMAS JUMBO 1997

ACROSS: I Such stuff as dreams are made on 15 Invert sugar 2 16 Pollution 17 Set-to 18 Arrange 19 Replenish 20. Variation 21 Dude ranch 22 George Medal 23 Abeam 24 Odds-on 26 Harrebeest 28 Richelieu 32 Impostor 33 Ungovernable 35 Media 37 Hard-boiled egg 39 Risen 41 Serpent 42 Chariot 43 Sight 44 Stern foremost 46 Aside 47 Interrogator 49 Pro forma 52 Contained 55 Tunesmiths 56 Caress 58 Macon 60 Russophiles 62 Loathsome 64 Demitasse 65 Ashlaring 67 Edified 68 Euler 69 Institute 70 Spanish Main 71 As plain as the nose on one's face

DOWN: 1 Spit and polish 2 Covered 3 Strongrooms 4 Unseeing 5 Figurehead 6 Strip 7 Ripieno 8 All his geese are swans 9 Southampton 10 Reinvader 11 Mongrel 12 Disparage 13 Outline 14 Somnambulant 22 Gutenberg 25 Deportation 27 Brought down the house 29 Chessboard 30 In due course 31 Corinthian 34 Banana 35 Morse 36 Bedsit 38 Bride 40 Suetonius 42 Chancemedley 45 Transcendence 48 Rationalist 50 Flashlights 51 Wholegrain 53 Au naturel 54 Dyspepsia 57 Valerian 59 Cumulus 60 Rossini 61 Llanero 63 Okinawa 66 Issue

ranging management restructuring with a view to shifting management power to the core BAA businesses. The group is reorganised into self-standing

companies, based around airports, duty-free. property, international and a fledgling railway business. The BAA A herb; a saint (5) 2 Fixer of leaks (7) management committee has Ancient secress (5) been replaced with a new Quietened (5) executive committee, which 6 Length of pace (6) will oversee the delegation of 7 First G&S/D'Oyly-Carte authority down the line. piece (5,2,4)

BAA has been dogged by disappointing stock market performance, and is intent on

This week in

THE TIMES

■ Tomorrow

Did Roger Levitt, above.

begin his career at Barlow

Clowes, Slater Walker or

Marks & Spencer? Our

wicked Christmas Quiz

Michael Clark, stock mar-

ket writer of the year, reviews the year's highs and lows. Carl Mortished.

Tempus editor, assesses

the 1997 share portfolio.

will test your memory.

■ Saturday

BAA, the airports operator, delivering increased shareholder value. Sir John Egan. who steps down as BAA chief executive in 1999, said the changes would give BAA room to pursue different options. The group has diversified significantly, and it was appropriate to change the way

the company was managed. Sir John said: "Previously, the management committee took every decision of importance. We've broken it down into a number of companies, with the delegated authority that the board used to give me.

Issues facing BAA include the strength of the pound, which is taking its toll of

spending at Heathrow. The slump was reflected in flat recent financial results. Sir John said: "I don't think right now the City, in a very frothy moment, is taking any prisoners. Our underlying performance is more or less standard."

He added: "The only longterm warning signal is that sterling is typically strong, and we are fundamentally selling to foreigners going home. We've got to be competitive. On the other hand, we've got pretty strong traffic growth — lots of people going on holiday. You never get it fully for you at the same time."

row and Paddington, and says railways could develop into a new operational division. Sir John said: "Once we've got the infrastructure in underneath Heathrow, it could become a very successful railway hub. We're looking at other places could quite easily be that it becomes a core part of our There has been speculation

BAA is building a high-speed rail link between Heath-

that BAA might look to float off its highly profitable retail operations.

Corporate profile, page 44

Launch of Virgin One account postponed By MARIANNE CURPHEY

VIRGIN DIRECT, part of Richard Branson's Virgin empire. has postponed the launch of its Virgin One account to the public after seeing how Tesco was overwhelmed by demand for its high-interest savings account. An advertising blitz was

current account mortgage to non-Virgin customers in the new year. However, that launch has been put off while the company tests its call centre and administrative back-up. The product is unlikely to be rolled out publicly before the summer, although

existing Virgin customers and

those who have already in-

quired about Virgin One will

Virgin is attempting to

be able to open an account.

originally planned to accom-pany the launch of its new had been delayed because of administrative troubles.

learn from the mistakes of other financial services providers, including Tesco. which was forced to apologise to customers who waited weeks before their new savings account applications were processed. Last month Royal Bank of Scotland, which is running the savings account with Tesco, took the unusual step of apologising to

Dr George Mathewson. RBS chief executive, said Tesco had received 40,000 applications in five months. Martin Campbell, Virgin Direct product development manager, said: "We want to

be sure we are ready and that

we can meet the expected

demand. We are trying to

other companies, which were unprepared for the huge popularity of their new products. "Existing customers have already signed up. Those people who are not customers but who have telephoned to express an interest in Virgin One are being offered the account from the beginning of January. However, we do not

learn from the mistakes of

want to launch a full-scale advertising campaign to everyone else until we know we are ready." So far the majority of

applications for the Virgin One account, which combines a savings account with a flexible mortgage, have been from people in the 35 to 40 age group. About 10,000 people have already called to express an interest in the account.

the Japanese market. Bulgaria in Crisis LEFT TO FREEZE Yordan, 1%, already maincurished could die from cold and launger reaches him now. With tomi clothing and no shoes affer him little no money to heat his No Money To Feed The Children

No Money To Heat The Orphanages Bulgaria is a country in the midst of a serious economic crisis. Now thousands of children are suffering terribly as

Siberian temperatures hit the country. Urgent help is needed. There is little money to heat the orphanages. Orphanage Directors are having to beg for food from local villages and rarely know where the next meal is coming from. In some areas children, like Yordan, are going hungry and the cold could prove fatal for many children this winter. Without aid this could be catastrophic for Bulgaria's orphanage children

The European Children's Trust, sister charity of The Romanian Orphanage Trust, is ready to distribute emergency food packs, clothes and fuel to the orphanages in most need. Your gift today will save lives and bring hope. O £28 could have exceed

feed 20 orphismage children for a week at he orphismage for 3 days.	er en	1
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Children's
Children's 01273 299399 NOW. Registered Charity No. 1048737 Please act NOW - winter is here